ARCHITECT & BUILDING NEWS

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APRIL 6, 1951 · VOL. 199 · NO. 4294 · ONE SHILLING WEEKLY



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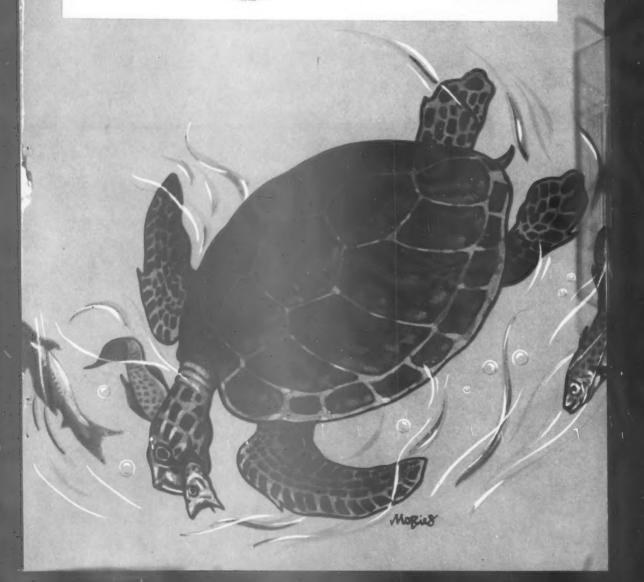
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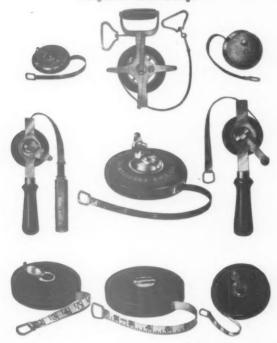
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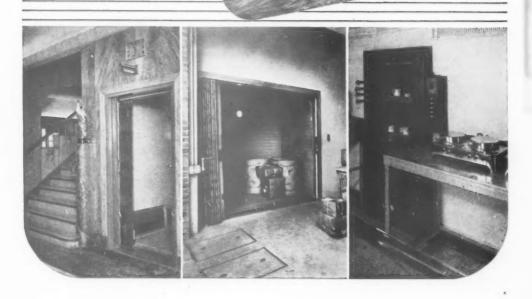
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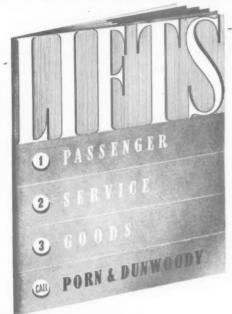
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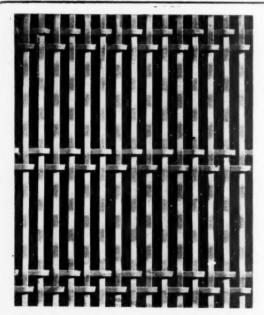
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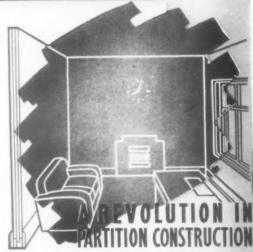
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PLANNING AND/OR HOUSING

THE last number of the Journal of the Town and Country Planning Association contained a lively, if somewhat emotional, article by Lady Pepler on the shortage of housing and how that shortage impressed itself on those without homes of their own and how planning in general was producing impatience in the public mind.

The article was a timely reminder that new housing, new towns and new development plans in general are not marching together—at any rate so far as the layman's appreciation is concerned. Lady Pepler appealed for a mass public demand with passion and intensity behind it, and, she avers, that unless the relationship of housing to town planning is dramatically changed by propaganda and the evidence of action, the work, money and vision of our planning pioneers will be wasted.

All this is probably true and fair comment, with which few would disagree; but why is housing always pin-pointed as the major issue and its relationship to planning in general ignored? Mainly we think because it is too easy a plank for the insertion into sectional political platforms. It is a subject easy to summarise in items and figures and, also, it lends itself to sensationalism - in other words it is a perfect sort of vote-catching subject for any political party or local agent to seize upon. Planning in general or the relationship of planning to housing is more difficult to put across; in fact, we imagine that most politicians hate to try and the average local agent would suppress it if he could. It is not so easy a subject to explain in simple language or within the paper-space allowances made to those who nurse constituencies.

Methods like the £1,000 cheap house competition or the Women's Institute house at Olympia serve to focus the public's attention on housing as a separate factor which is little related to the needs of particular national areas of either town or country

and, even less, to the scores of other factors which have to be considered in the preparation of a development plan or in the production of a new town. These methods are also acting, at the moment, as an introduction to the idea of lowering standards of housing in order to reduce costs. In order to get more homes, because they will be cheaper so, we must become slightly less civilized and lower our standards of living by putting up with smaller sizes, less space, fewer cupboards and less equipment, only one w.c. (and that often in the bathroom), dust-bins on the road-front and (except perhaps in the country?) terrace houses everywhere and those (strangely enough) of two storeys only. But it is not only houses that are the problem; the real problems are more intense. Planning should be the real focus of attention-with intensive concentration on urban densities, flatted schools and factories and, above all,

The cost of flats is also too high—it is a much more serious all-time "high" than that of houses. The problem is wider than mere dwellings; it concerns their relationship to many other phases of planning. The use, for example, of "back-land" and other waste areas—urban marginal lands—now unused and derelict in thousands of small areas and patches in the semi-obsolescent developments of the intermediate and even the outer zone-rings of London and other large towns.

The problem is not limited even to the consideration of housing and its planning alone; it is also concerned with rents—current and protected—with subsidies, the cost of national ill-health or sub-standard health and the acceleration by such factors of the inflationary spiral of economics, which is now influenced, in turn, by "butter or guns" policies, now so urgently before the nation. But these wider issues cannot be discussed here—we have not the space—but they exist as economic problems, shouting

for more studious attention and of the strongest influence on planning and housing.

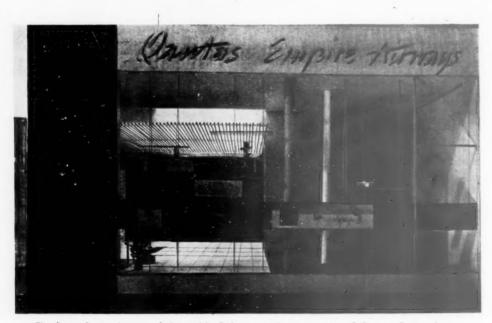
All architects and town and country planners, who are sufficiently altruistic to think intensively about such things, know that all good planning, whether of land or buildings or of methods of production, makes for cheapness and that to get cheaper houses drastic lowering of permanent standards is not necessary. Does the building industry think the same? Do the surveyors, the valuers, the engineers, the responsible Government departments think likewise?

If so, then the answer is for all these various activities to get together a little more—get out of grooves and isolated corners—and confer on planning and planned reorganisation with which to produce the required houses and flats and to see, at the same time that the public knows and understands the efforts being made. Planners have, probably, only themselves to thank if they are becoming mere administrators and not creators—that is the narrow way but a great army cannot travel along it all at the same time. A broader front and greater planning in depth is necessary.

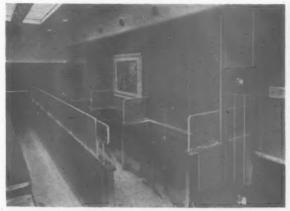
Important contributions have already been made, but they are being forgotten and may moulder

away in store while planning loses itself in a maze of administration under the 1947 Act, within which—is it necessary to recall?—the requisite powers for action—creative action—exist. We refer, as we have before, to the Government Report on the Distribution of Materials and Components, to the Monopolies and Restrictive Practices Commission, to the Working Party's findings and to the Productivity Team's Report. It is not sufficient to pay lip-service to these documents; all of them contain recommendations which are valuable enough to implement in the service of planning and an intensive reorganisation of the building industry and its many ancillaries for the purpose of speedier and greater production and cheaper costs—even in housing.

That the Minister has promised to issue a new memorandum on housing standards and it is rumoured that the Ministry of Health has under consideration a drastic revision of housing subsidies, are significant enough indications of action from the top.. The inter-conferences and reorganisations of all related activities we have suggested would seem, reasonably, to come before, and not after, official actions. It would also seem to be up to the professions and to the industry to get the cart to go better, with the horse—and a willing one at that—in front.



The Dover Street elevation of the model of the proposed reconstruction of Quantas Empire Airways premises on the corner of Dover Street and Piccadilly. The architects are James Cubitt and Partners who designed the African Tourist Association's Travel Office next door in Piccadilly.







Messrs. J. Lyons & Company's new tea shop in Lower Regent Street, referred to below.

EVENTS AND COMMENTS

BUILDING RESEARCH CONGRESS

THE number of delegates who have already applied to attend the Building Research Congress to be held in London in September, is so great that the organising committee is considering closing the membership list. Over a thousand people have applied and they include the Directors of Building Research of ten Commonwealth and Continental countries.

wealth and Continental countries.

Accommodation for the various sessions is causing the committee some concern although the halls of the R.I.B.A., I.C.E., I.Struct.E., R.I.C.S., I.E.E. and L.C.C., have been made available.

IOE LYONS NEW STYLE

MY pictures give some idea of the new Lyons tea shop in Lower Regent Street. For once I succumbed to the national habit of morning coffee and went to see for myself. In general I think it is very well done. There is an air of spaciousness not always present in such places. The colours are pleasant and unobtrusive, but the design of the hat racks, though practical, is rather restless. This is particularly noticeable on the ground floor, where there are a lot of them. They probably cease to be troublesome when covered with hats.

The biggest improvement in comfort is the reduction of the noise level. All customer space ceilings are covered with acoustic tile with remarkable effect. The ceilings immediately above the service counters are not so treated probably because of steam. This is a pity as most of the noise starts here. Away from the counter talking conditions are ideal. On the ground floor, over the self-service counter, there is an elaborate electric sign which can only be seen by a handful of people, since it runs lengthwise down the narrow part of the shop. It may be a new standard fitting which had to be incorporated. The shop window display is kept low so that there is a good view of the shop from the pavement. The tables, which are shaped to make access easier for those sitting on the wall seats, are plastic veneered. Chairs are by Race. The walls are panelled with a semi-mat narrow fiuted plastic sheeting. think it is plastic.

The business part of the shop has been particularly

well thought out. The self-service counters incorporate a number of new ideas including a properly screened-off queueing space. Trolleys for trays and dirty crockery are neatly designed. The new design has not gone as far as cutlery and crockery but in these days that is

perhaps expecting too much.

THE FESTIVAL

I do not think that the lighting fittings are entirely satisfactory. There are too many different types and shapes. Seen with the air inlets they produce a rather spotty appearance and detract somewhat from the otherwise very restful atmosphere. Lithographs from the already well known Lyons series decorate the walls in rather over-important frames.

The new shop is certainly a great advance on Lyons' previous try at "contemporary." Tougher critics than I will say that it will date badly. Can anyone show me any contemporary design which will not? The old marble panelled type of shop must have been ideal for cleaning and have required no maintenance. It strikes me that the new one will not be so easy to keep clean and smart, although it looks fine now.

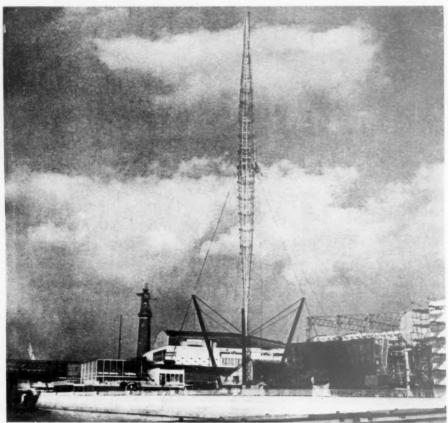
THE Skylon structure is finished and only the louvres remain to be fitted. These louvres are to take the place of the originally planned aluminium lattice cover-

ing. Can anyone be sure that they will not form a vast Aeolian harp when fixed? Perhaps, by a simple, or complicated, system of levers for opening and shutting the louvres, the whole thing could be turned into a lovely new sort of musical instrument or something.

Work on the Exhibition of Industrial Power at the Kelvin Hall, Glasgow, is said to be ten days ahead of schedule. In Canterbury there may be a crisis if some of the good citizens who have grown beards for the pageant have to do their Z training before the pageant. I suggest that anyone so affected might seek a transfer to the Navy.

" ABOUT BRITAIN," F.O.B. GUIDE BOOKS

THE covers of the volumes of this attractive looking series, which is edited by Geoffrey Grigson, carry reproductions of relief maps of such deceptive quality that one expects to feel the hills and valleys when picking them up. The production is good. I cannot generalise about the interior, for I have only examined closely the volume on the Home Counties. It starts with a charming coloured frontispiece of a cricket match, and after a short and useful bibliography has a note on using the book which starts: "This guide book is one of a series 'About Britain,' so, we hope, in a new way. Like the others (there are thirteen altogether) it contains



many photographs, a map, a gazetteer, and illustrated strip-maps of the most convenient itineraries. And it begins with a portrait of the district—an account of many of the facts about it which are worth knowing and many of the things which are worth seeing." Later it says: "If the country includes Birmingham, Glasgow or Belfast, it includes Stonehenge. If it contains Durham Cathedral it contains coal mines, iron foundries, and the newest of factories devising all the goods of a developing civilisation. If it includes remnants of medieval forest, it includes also the new forests of conifers transforming acres of useless land"; and later still: "It is the living country of to-day which these guide books emphasize, the place and the people, not only the country of the past or the exquisitely varied . . . " The books are clearly not intended as guides to good English, and, in view of the claim to emphasise the living Britain, it is interesting to note that the only twentieth-century architecture illustrated in this particular volume is an aerial view of a typical London suburb and not very inspiring pictures of Welwyn Garden City and the Ford factory at Dagenham, all of which are pre-1939. is a lot of closely packed information in the "Portrait" section by R. S. R. Fitter, but the illustrations to the suggested tours are pitiful, and the notes both pitiful and inaccurate. For example, "Hastings and St. Leonards have utilised their cliff-backed sea coast and good communications inland to build up a prosperous seaside resort," and on the next page: "Like many South Coast resorts, Eastbourne has utilised a combination of cliffs and seafront as a basis for its holiday activities"; and the next page: "The seaside resort of Worthing, unlike Brighton, Eastbourne and Hastings, has no cliffs." More and better information can be obtained by members of the Automobile Association for nothing. The gazetteer is a very slight affair which, among other things, refers to the Bexhill pavilion as "one of the notable example of architectural modernism in Great Britain," and put Canterbury Cricket Week in July.

I very much hope that the other twelve volumes in this series are an improvement on this one, otherwise the preface writer's hope that the books will be useful far beyond the Festival year is unlikely to be even partially fulfilled.

STEAM ON THE NATIONAL GALLERY

WITH hissing intakes of breath some architects have been shaking their heads over the use of steam-jets for cleaning the stonework of the National Gallery. I am afraid that this shows that they have not been studying their B.R.S. Digests. Just to make quite sure, I asked the M.o.W., and they evidently had read Digest No. 21, for they told me that it was the combination of steam and chemicals used some years ago which was so harmful to stonework. Pure steam, which is harmless enough, is being used on the National Gallery because one of the main problems on this particular job is the removal of pigeon droppings.

The question of what to do about the ever-increasing numbers of starlings which insist on roosting round about Trafalgar Square is, I understand, exercising the Westminster City Council and others. Electrified mats have been considered, but these would surely only persuade the survivors to go and bother someone else. What is needed is an inquiry into the starlings' reasons for choosing this particular spot. They should be consulted; let a Gallup poll be taken.

ARCHITECTURE AT THE R.A.

A N evening paper recently stated that the architectural exhibits for this year's Academy were being selected by Arthur Davis. My information is that Mr. Davis has been ill for some time and that the selection is actually being made by Vincent Harris and Brian O'Rorke.

CHEAPEST IN THE WORLD

HEAR that cement prices are likely to go up by two shillings a ton almost immediately.* The Minister of Works, who controls the price, has, it is said, already held up the increase for more than a month. A further increase is expected in May. In spite of this the price of cement in Britain will still be the lowest in the world, but the Government will have to think twice before using

HOSPITALITY AT HOME

this argument to answer complaints.

HE Tea Centre has been altered by Jane Drew and Maxwell Fry so that it is not now necessary to go up the back stairs to arrive in the gallery. The first exhibition since the alterations was opened last week by Gerald Barry and is a joint C.o.I.D.-Tea Centre affair. The theme is "Hospitality at Home," and a number of rooms are shown prepared for a variety of entertainments from breakfast to bed-time. For once, the sparse and tidy C.o.I.D. lay-out has been left for something approaching natural living conditions. only difference being that if we had all the gadgets and furniture shown we should count ourselves very well off. Much of the furniture and equipment has been seen before and is already on sale in the shops. A comprehensive catalogue which is also a price-list costs a shil-If you have plenty of time it will amuse you to identify the objects with the list; if you are in a hurry you will wish that the exhibits were numbered. modern standards prices are not high. I found that a number of the things I marked in my catalogue were new and not yet generally available. In spite of this it is, I think, the best show yet of what is good and obtainable. I liked very much the idea of looking down into some of the furnished rooms. The exhibition was designed by Roger and Robert Nicholson.

ELECTROLUMINESCENT

THIS delicious new word has been coined in America to describe a new method of lighting. The idea is that special electricity-conducting glass is made to give off light by coating it with what is called a "phosphor" and a number of other things. The intensity of light is low so that if a room was to be properly lit it would be necessary to cover the entire ceiling or a wall with lighting panels. Actual commercial installations are said to be some years off, but "decorative effects"—and can't you see them—are on their way.

ABNER

*The Minister of Works has authorised the following price increases following rises in costs:—

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Roofing Felts and Dampcourses. Five per cent. in the maximum selling prices of roofing felts and dampcourses made to British Standard specifications by members of the Association of British Roofing Felt Manufacturers, from March 27.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

The Improvements and Town Planning Committee of the City of London Corporation has recommended the granting of planning permission for the building of Bucklersbury House, a building of 14 storeys maximum height to occupt two and a third acres on a site bounded by Queen Victoria Street, Bucklersbury, Walbrook, Cannon Street, Tower Royal and Queen Street. The cost is reported to be estimated at £8 million. The architect is Mr. O. Campbell Jones, F.R.I.B.A., F.R.I.C.S., and the main contractors will be Messrs. Humphreys Ltd.

It will be a steel framed structure faced with stone and designs will be submitted for approval to the City Common Council, the L.C.C., and the Royal Fine Art Commission.

The Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, is to be reopened in July after twelve years' service as a food and fuel office. Alterations and improvements to the Gallery are now well advanced. Two of the main rooms, intended for the permanent exhibition, were decorated and hung for the recent visit of H.R.H. The Duchess of Kent; from these it can be seen that, after the opening, the pictures (many of them acquired while the Gallery has been closed) will be well lit.

New artificial lighting in troughs suspended from the ceiling enables the pictures to be hung at a comfortable, height for viewers. Laylights of lightly patterned glass obscure the ugly skylights in the roof while providing well diffused natural light in the rooms. Architectural treatment and colour

Architectural treatment and colour schemes have appropriately been kept subservient to the need for displaying the pictures to advantage. Walls are covered with canvas painted in plain colours with neutral grey on architraves and skirtings.

On the ground floor one room, with separate entrance from the street, is being converted into a lecture hall. In some cases unsafe floors have necessitated costly reconstruction. New windows have been cut under the pediment of the entrance to give light to the sculpture gallery. But the money spent has been concentrated on essentials. The result promises to be an economical rebirth of a gallery of national as well as local importance. The alterations are being carried out under the supervision of Dr. Ronald Bradbury, City Architect and Director of Housing.

At the annual general meeting of the Royal Society of British Sculptors, held on March 28, 1951, at 6 Queen Square, W.C.I, Mr. Wm. C. H. King was relected President for the ensuing year. The following were elected to Fellowship of the Society: Miss Charlotte Gibson, Mr. G. E. Campbell, Mr. Denis, C. Dunlop, Mr. Alan Durst,

Mr. Bennett Ingram,
At this meeting the Society elected six new Associates: Miss Ruth Windmiller, Mr. Douglas R. Bisset, Mr. Allan G. King, Mr. C. d'O. Pilkington



MR. E. G. DEAN

the M.o.W. officer who is acting as technical consultant to the L.M.B.A., to give short notice advice on builders' problems, was appointed Structural Engineer in the Chief Scientific Adviser's Division of the Ministry of Works in 1946. His present duties in the Ministry are the collection, examination and dissemination of the results of research and development in the field of building. Mr. Dean was elected an Associate of the Institution of Structural Engineers in 1939 and a Licentiate of the Royal Institute of British Architects in 1945. He is a member of the Prestressed Concrete Development Group.

Jackson, Mr. S. Birnie Stewart, Mr. Albert Willetts.

The Best Work of the Year Medal (for 1950) (in gold) was presented to Mr. Wm. McMillan, R.A., F.R.B.S.

The Minister of Local Government and Planning has informed the Glouces-tershire County Council that he intends to approve an order making certain parts of the county an area of special control in the matter of outdoor advertisements.

The Eccles Sketch Prize and Unsworth Essay Prize awarded by the Liverpool Architectural Society have been won by Glyn Roberts, of Rock Ferry High School, and A. C. Gordon, of Wirral Grammar School respectively.

OBITUARY

The death was announced on March 26 of Walter Oscar Langbeim, L.R.I.B.A., at Ashford, aged 81.

The death was announced on March 26 of Mr. R. G. Hammond, F.R.I.B.A., of Hove, aged 83.

CORRECTION

On p. 360 in last week's issue it was stated that the Minister of Works called on the cement manufacturers to deliver 2.2 million tons of cement in the present year. This should have been 9.2 million tons.

Mr. E. D. Jefferies Mathews, F.R.I.B.A., A.R.I.C.S., has been elected chairman of the Architects' Registration Council.

Mr. W. H. Kininmonth, F.R.I.B.A., of Edinburgh, has been appointed architect for the new town hall for Elgin.

As from April 6, 1951, the style of Culpin & Son will be changed to Clifford Culpin & Partner. The partners will remain as at present, Mr. Clifford E. Culpin, F.R.L.B.A., and Mr. W. W. Ryder, A.R.L.B.A.

The Bath & Portland Stone Firms Ltd. announce that as a result of general material prices and national wage increases, as from April 2, ex quarry prices for Bath, Portland, Doulting and Beer block stone will be increased by 4d. per ft. cube. Prices will in future apply to Portland stone of 20 ft. average and other stones of 25 ft. average.

COMING EVENTS

The Housing Centre

 April 10, at 1.15 p.m. "Delinquency and Housing Conditions." Speaker: Miss M. M. H. Smith.

Royal Institute of British Architects

April 10, at 6 p.m. "Some Technical Problems arising in the Building of a New Town." Speaker: G. Grenfell Baines.

 April 12, at 2.30 p.m. A Discussion Meeting and Exhibition on "The Housing Needs of Old People." The Exhibition will remain open until April 28.

Institute of Sanitary Engineers

Msiliate of Santary Engineers

April 10, at 6.30 p.m., at Caxton Hall,
Westminster. Sessional Meeting,
"Sanitation in Multi-Storey Buildings." Speaker: H. E. Gooding.

London Master Builders Association

● April 11, at 12.45 p.m., at Derry & Toms Restaurant, Kensington High Street, W.8. Central Area No. 1 General Meeting.

Institution of Structural Engineers

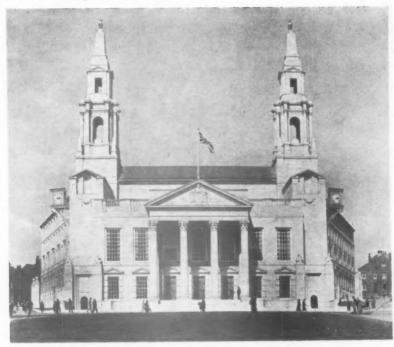
April 12, at 5.55 p.m. "The Design
and Construction of a Large Span
Prestressed Concrete Shell Roof."
Speakers: Lt.-Colonel G. W. Kirkland and A. Goldstein.

Architectural Association

● April 12, at 8.30 p.m. Annual Reception.

Harold Hill Estate Tour

The Housing Centre Trust has arranged with the L.C.C. a visit for students and others interested in housing to Harold Hill Estate on Wednesday, April 18, leaving the Housing Centre 13 Suffolk Street at 2 p.m. and returning at approximately 5.30 p.m. The inclusive charge is 5s. 6d. A few places may still be available and can be booked with the Housing Centre, Whitehall 2381-3.



Leeds Civic Hall, 1933.

PRESENTATION OF

THE

ROYAL

GOLD ME

MEDAL

THE Royal Gold Medal for the promotion of Architecture was presented to Mr. E. Vincent Harris, O.B.E., R.A., F.R.L.B.A., by the President of the R.I.B.A., Mr. Graham Henderson, at a meeting at the Royal Institute last Tuesday,

Mr. Vincent Harris, who is the hundred and second recipient, had as his escort two previous Royal Gold Medalists, Sir Percy Thomas and Mr. Edward Maufe. Speakers called upon by the P.R.I.B.A. were Sir Gerald Kelly, P.R.A.; Dr. John Murray, Principal of the Exeter and S.W. of England University; Sir Basil Gibson, of Sheffield; Mr Robert Lyne, Lord Mayor Elect of Bristol; and Sir Percy Thomas.

Sir Percy Thomas, O.B.E., HON.LL.D., P.P.R.I.B.A.: "I imagine the President has asked me to say a word as a contemporary of Vincent Harris and a fellow competitor over many years. Vincent Harris made his mark, like so many members of this Institute, through the medium of the open architectural competition, and I think his earliest success happened to be in my own city of Cardiff.

"I shall say very little of his work. We of his age know and admire him. It is the breath of simplicity which always made it beautiful and removed it from the commonplace and the orthodox. I think that his elevations, whatever the modern generation may think, were quite easily the finest between the two wars, and his planning, which we forget about sometimes, will stand comparison with any in any age.

"I have only to add my own congratulations to Vincent Harris whom I have known for many years on at last receiving this Gold Medal, and to the Institute for their recognition—if somewhat belated—of the very fine work which he has done."

Mr. E. Vincent Harris, in reply, said. "Behind all that has been said lies clearly the belief which we architects have in the work of the Royal Institute of British Architects, to which we all belong and to which each and every one of us

owes allegiance. The democratic spirit of this Institute and what it stands for in architecture is worth reflecting upon and worth consideration on an occasion such as this. Institute was founded on faith, and it can only be sustained by faith. To-day we are being urged to attempt a new architecture, free from architectural tradition. This Institute has never pretended to be a source of architectural criticism in the sense of judging what is good or what is not good in architecture. I think that the bond which unites its members is the bond of architecture. That does not mean to say that each architect agrees with this or that individual architect's work, but it does mean that between each and every architect there is that bond of architecture. When the work which is now held in abevance owing to the rearmament programme springs into life again, I hope that the new architecture will gain inspiration from the past and create the forms of the present.

The professional career of Mr. Vincent Harris is one of continuous and unparalleled success in the field of architectural competitions. He was still in his early twenties when he was placed second in the competition for Torquay Town Hall. He was again second in the Devonport Town Hall Competition. With Thomas Moodie he won the competition for Glamorganshire Town Hall, built in 1911, and went on to win competitions for the following: Headquarters Fire Station, Cardiff; The Board of Trade Offices on the Embankment, 1914; Taunton Science School; Public Hall, Tunbridge Wells; Memorial Hall, Sheffield; Manchester Library and City Hall Extension. Other important buildings designed by Mr. Vincent Harris before the war included Surrey County Hall, Kingston; Leeds Civic Hall; Braintree Town Hall and the Council Chamber, Essex County Hall; Municipal Buildings, Bristol. Since the war he has designed extensions to the universities of Durham and Exeter and South West England.

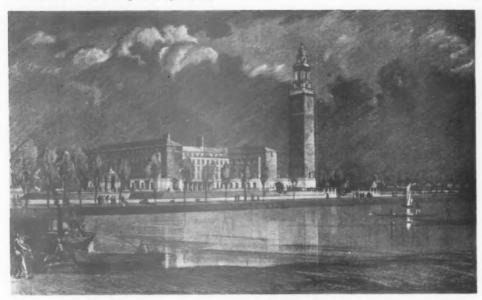


Manchester City Library and Extension to City Hall, 1938

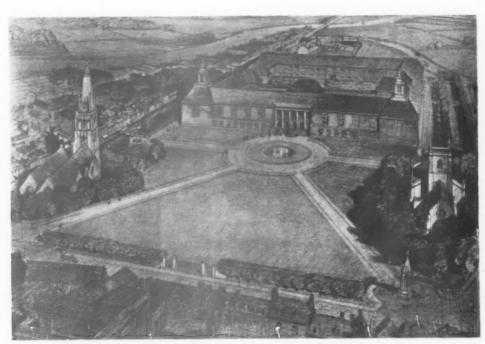


The Council House, College Green, Bristol, commenced before the war and now nearing completion

SOME EXAMPLES OF THE WORK



Design exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1939 for the Shire Hall, Nottingham

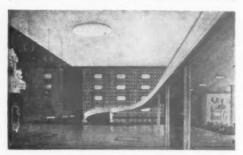


Design exhibited at the Foyal Academy in 1937 for Civic Centre and Art Gallery for Gloucester

OF E. VINCENT HARRIS, R.A.



LEICESTER SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE



Two 5th year drawings by students at the Leicester School of Architecture ; Left: "A Country Club" by J. S. Williams; Right: "A Civic Hall, by H. G. Cooper. Other examples of students' work are shown on the next two pages

C 0 R RESPONDENCE

Modular Co-ordination

To the Editor of A. & B.N.

Sir,—There are many angles and facets to the question of modular coordination that will be debated by those and there are obviously many-who have given serious consideration to the questions involved. I only wish to touch on one of these, namely the basic question of whether modular design in its more comprehensive aspects is a good thing for architecture as an art,

Personally, I do not think it is. I believe that the architect can and does seek and use harmonious relationships both instinctively and consciously; and this be a module it is a private one related solely to the job in hand. I do not believe that the character and physiognomy of buildings, infinitely varied and subtle as they should be, can be fully expressed on the basis of a fixed modular dimension; and Baconic a fixed modular dimension; and Bacon's excellent beauty achieved through a slight strangeness in the proportions is not to be realised by a subordination of the designer's freedom to any rule that may eliminate just that element of personal proportion which makes a building come alive.

I think that one way to regard such questions is to imagine modular systems carried to an extreme—ad absurdum—and then to realise that what might ultimately emerge would be an official system of modular units (no doubt administered by a Ministry of Modulations) to which everyone must adhere on the score of achieving low cost. Econ-omy itself can become a fetish. It is imposed upon us by necessity, but with each step in this direction we tend downwards towards a new low level. The arguments are always so plausible, so convincing. But let us again follow so convincing. But let us again follow economy to its ultimate goal, and we will find at the end of it a "package" building. Why not package painting (limited to six utility colours) and package sculpture (limit of size, modular blocks, made of artificial stone or bronze substitute conforming to RSI standards). to B.S.I. standards)?

My own instinct-I am bound to write personally—is to react immediately and strongly against all restrictions in design as such. We have had to put up for years with standard sized windows, and now there is a loosening up of their dimensions with an alternative range of sizes available. Surely that is because the manufacturers-who have performed a very real service in re-search and development—have come to recognise that in many simple buildings the openings call the tune: and no architect with an urge to design likes to play the same tune all the time.

I believe in being able to buy wall-boards, blocks and other components in a range of sizes, much as they exist at present. They can be cut or adjusted within reasonable limits. I do not like the idea of 8 ft. 3 in., 36 in., or 40 in. being introduced as immutable standards, for the reason that these things are likely to be the thin edge of a possibly disastrous wedge.

I have written at this length, not to air my own views, but in the hope of encouraging my colleagues, young and old, to express opinions on the architectural implications of these developments

> I am. etc.. HOWARD ROBERTSON.

Electric Floor Heating

To the Editor of A. & B.N.

Sir,—It seems to me that in spite of Mr. Donald Smith's insistence on the undesirability of "planning inside water-tight compartments" and of the desirability of "recognising a conflict where it exists," he is guilty of doing the former and of imagining a conflict where it does not exist.

Apart from the fact that the Elec-trical Authorities do not "incessantly push" electric space heating it is single. not true to say that electricity is the most costly form of space and water heating without qualifying the particular application.

Mr. Smith compares electricity, coal fires, gas fires and central heating for heating a building. But what build-

ing? Does one use coal or gas fires for heating a modern factory or use central heating for a living-room on a chilly Spring or Autumn day? There is, in fact, no conflict; each method has its reasonable and justifiable applications and to claim that central heating is the answer to all is surely to "plan in a water-tight compartment."

So far as water heating is concerned, be Building Research Station exthe Building Research periments have shown that for the quantity of hot water people seem to desire electricity is cheaper to the consumer and uses less raw coal than a centralised system during the summer

As to the figures given, it may be that between 23% and 27% of the total units generated in this country is used for space heating. No definite figures are available and it is futile to argue about guesses.

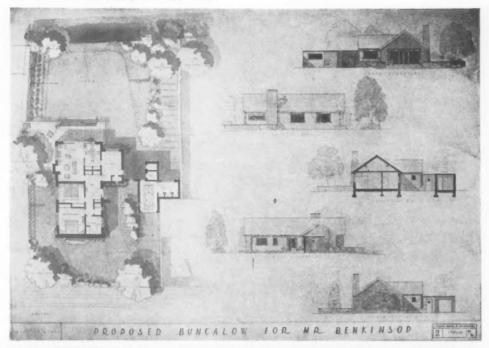
With the implication that electric space heating wastes more fuel than alternative methods, I must definitely disagree. Electric heating is largely used for intermittent, short-period heating where it often shows an economy in fuel-consumption over alternative methods.

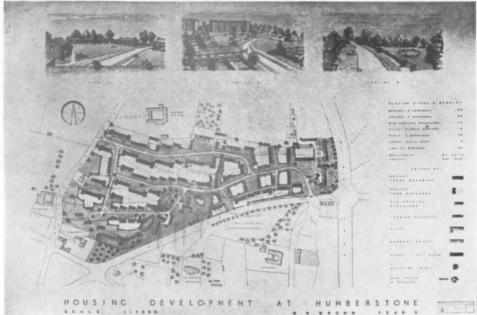
The solution to the fuel problem is to use the right method in the right place; there is no one reasonable method of heating applicable to all cases.

I am, etc. E. M. ACKERY.

Saltire Society

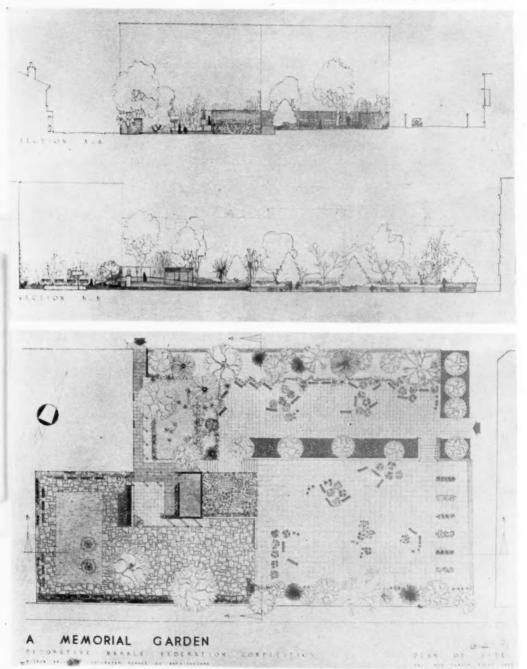
Housing Design Commendation. of the earliest acts of the Satire Society was to institute an annual award for merit in the design of local authority housing in Scotland. The award takes the form of a plaque attached to the building and two illuminated diplomas, one to hang in the local authorities' offices and one for presentation to the architect responsible for the scheme. The award has been offered again this year. The Councils are asked to supply photographs to the Honorary Secretary, Saltire Society, Gladstone Land, 483 Lawn Market, Edinburgh, by April 14.





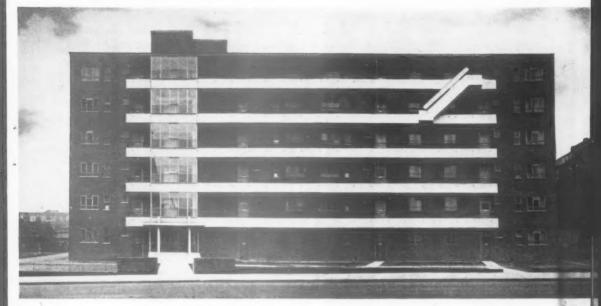
Top picture: 2nd year Diploma Course design by T. M. Ogrodnik Bottom picture: 5th year Diploma Course design by B. G. Brown

Leicester School of Architecture



4th year Diploma Course : Design awarded 1st prize of £100 in the Decorative Marble Federation Competition, by W. Briscoe

Leicester School of Architecture



STUART MILL HOUSE, KILLICK STREET, N.I

for Finsbury Borough Council

architect:

JOSEPH EMBERTON F.R.I.B.A.

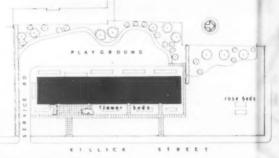
THE site for these flats was expensive and made maximum development necessary. The permitted density is 130 persons per acre and accommodation is provided for 108 persons in 24 flats on approximately \(\frac{2}{3}\) acre. Toun planning angles for daylighting in relation to existing buildings and streets determined the position and height of the building within narrow limits. An equal number of 3-room and 4-room flats is provided as these types are in greatest demand on the Council's housing list.

The building was first planned to give direct access to all flats from two lifts at a cost within the Ministry of Health ceiling figure. To reduce the cost and provide lower rents it was replanned with balcony access and one lift. Bedrooms are kept away from party walls. The Kitchens are planned with space for a dining table so that they may be used as Dining and second Living Rooms.

The 8-passenger lift takes prams and there is pram storage space in each flat instead of communal storage at ground level.

Gas wash boilers and gas drying cupboards in each flat give complete self-contained laundry facilities.

Kitchens are well fitted with cupboards and doublesided dresser sideboard unit with service hatch between Kitchen and Living Room. There is space for a built-in refrigerator if one is desired.



CONSTRUCTION

The framework is of in situ reinforced concrete with hollow tile floors and roof. The roof is covered with screed insulation board and asphalt. External walls are panel cavity walls with flint facing brick outer skin and 3 in. vibrated clinker block inner skin. Party walls are cavity construction with two skins of clinker blocks insulated from the structure with fibre board at top and ends and on felt at the foot. Living room floors have $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. screed on 1 in. fibre glass mat.

The small external stair from fifth to fourth floor meets the fire escape requirement for alternative means of escape.

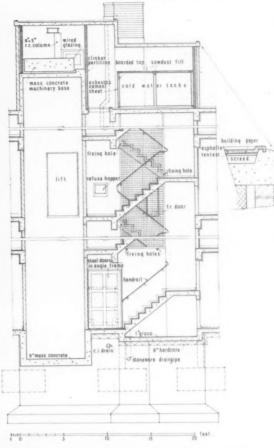
INTERNAL FINISH

Floors: Internally 9 in. x 9 in. brown Accotile on screed throughout. Balconies—Hardened asphalt. Stairs—Granolithic.

Walls: Generally plaster with one coat washable flat wall finish in a variety of colour schemes. Kitchens and



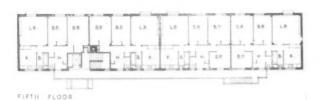
The main entrance with glazed screens above to protect the lift opening

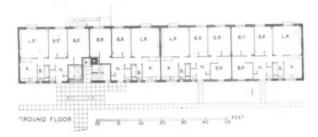


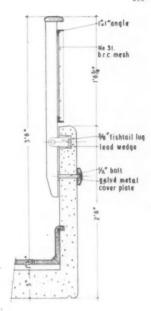
View from South-East



STUART MILL HOUSE, FINSBURY







bathrooms—Plaster painted. Stairs—Fair faced brick. Ceilings: Plaster and flat finish.

Doors and Frames: Standard wood panel doors in standard metal frames.

SERVICES

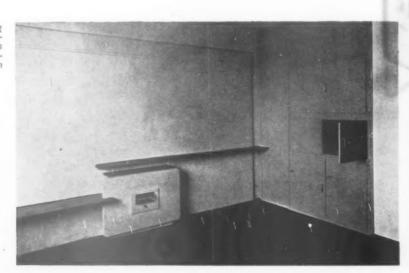
Heating is by accelerated low pressure hot water system with solid fuel boiler and automatic hopper feed stoker, providing background heating in Living Rooms

only, to give 55 deg. F. inside when 32 deg. F. outside. Topping up is by 1-kw. built-in electric fire in Living Rooms. There are power points for electric fires in all bedrooms. Hot water is provided by individual 25-gal. calorifiers in each flat to prevent waste.

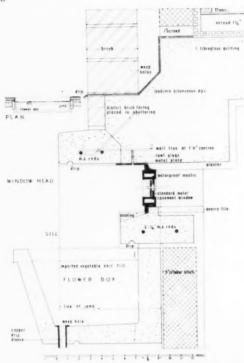
All plumbing and drainage is carried internally in four ducts.

Refuse disposal is by shute with hoppers on all floors for use with the Paladin container system.

Typical living room showing electric fire surround in terrazzo with hardwood shelves and double sided fitting between living room and kitchen



architect JOSEPH EMBERTON F.R.I.B.A.



GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Y. J. LOVELL & SON LTD.

Asphalt: Pilkington Bros. Ltd.
Bailers: Ideal Boilers & Radiators Ltd.
Bricks-Facing: Uxbridge Flint Brick Co. Ltd.
Central Heating: Carrier Ross Engineering Co. Ltd.

Co. Ltd.

Damp Courses: Ruberoid Co. Ltd.

Door Furniture: James Gibbon Ltd.

Electric Wiring: Bective Electrical Co. Ltd.

Electric Heating: Electroway Electric Fires

Foundations and Reinforced Concrete: Caxton Floors Co. Ltd. Gas Fixtures and Fittings: North Thames Gas

Board.

Board.
Glass: Aygee Ltd.
Joinery: Peerless Built in Furniture Ltd.
Lifts: Bennie Lift Co. Ltd.
Mantels: Hall & Co.
Metalwork: Clark, Hunt & Co. Ltd.
Partitions and Concrete Blocks: Broad Acheson I td.

Ltd.
Precast Concrete: Emerson & Norris Ltd.
Plumbing: Messrs. G. A. Haden & Sons Ltd.
Patent Flooring: Armstrong Cork Co. Ltd.
Sanitary Fittings: John Bolding & Son Ltd.
Signs: The Lettering Centre.
Waterproofing: Quickset Water Sealers Ltd.
Windows: Crittall Manufacturing Co. Ltd.
Window Furniture: Crittall Manufacturing Co.

Ltd.

STUART MILL HOUSE

FINSBURY

West elevation and detail of living room window with flower box



HOUSING AT BISHOPS CLEEVE Near CHELTENHAM. GLOUCESTERSHIRE

architects: T. P. BENNETT and SON

A T the beginning of the war Messrs. S. Smith & Sons (England) Ltd. erected à factory near the village of Bishops Cleeve, some four miles out of Cheltenham.

During the war the large labour force employed by the Company had been housed in houses, carawan camp and hostel, but in 1945 it became apparent that the provision of permanent housing near to the factory would become a matter of urgency. It was decided to form the Housing Association in 1946 and the Cheltenham Rural District Council agreed to participate, providing housing for Messrs. Smith's employees on a ratio of four of Messrs. Smith's employees to one Council nominee.

The site now under development is situated near the old village of Bishops Cleeve some \(\frac{1}{2}\) mile from the main factory. The site has been laid out to ensure that the village atmosphere is maintained, with a green and proposed shopping centre and other amenities. The layout knits in with a local authority development which was already under way and joins itself to the old village at its northern outlet.

The Association decided that their immediate requirement was three-bedroom semi-detached houses and two types were agreed. Both types (types "B" and "C") are in accordance with the general practice and recommendations of the Housing Manual and the Ministry of Health, and have a floor area of approximately 1,000 ft. super.

In Section 1 Contract, 76 of these types were built, The second section incorporated terrace type development as well as semi-detached houses. The terraces which consist of two and three-bedroom house units, are in blocks of four and six houses. A secondary green was introduced flanked by these terrace blocks, and the whole of the second contract comprised 30

terrace houses and a further 44 semi-detached threebedroom houses. The terrace houses were completed by June 1950 and the 44 semi-detached houses in February 1951.

The third section and the completion of the Estate within its present boundaries comprises another 132 houses. A two-bedroom semi-detached type has been introduced which has become increasingly popular with tenants because it provides adequate accommodation for a small family and the opportunity for a reduced rental.

The road and sewer works for this contract are well advanced and the houses are at present under construction.

In addition to the housing, there are sites for garages, shops, a public house, small church and a Sunday school. Extension of the layout has been allowed for to the north, south and west, but on eastern boundary it is restricted by the main Evesham road. A buffer of some 200 to 300 feet of orchard exists between this main road and the housing scheme.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR: TAYLOR WOODROW (HOMES) LTD.

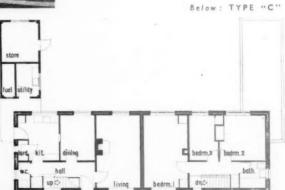
Bricks: H. J. Greenhams Ltd.
Door Furiture: Comyn Ching & Company.
Electrical Work: John Hearson & Co. Ltd.
Felt Sheeting (Ifat roofs): Everseal Products.
Fireplaces and Surrounds: III. Finch & Company.
Flooring (Asphatle): Durable Asphalte Co.
Gas Points: South Western Gas Board.
Paint: Hadfields (Merton) Ltd.
Plastering: A.C.V. Telling (Bristol) Ltd.
Plastering: Marley Tile Company.
Sanitary Fittings: Stitsons Sanitary Fittings Ltd.
Switch Distribution Boxes and Immersion Heaters: Midland Electricity
Board.
Wall Tilling (internal): Carter & Co. (London) Ltd.
Windows and Doors: Builders Supply Company (Hayes) Ltd.







Top: Bishops Drive and Woodmans Way. "B" type and "C" type centre view. Middle: View from entrance to Estate. Junction of Bishops Drive and Two Hedges Lane. "B" type. Bottom: Corner of Woodmans Way and Bishops Drive, "C" type houses.



HOUSING AT
BISHOPS CLEEVE
CHELTENHAM

PLANNING AS AN INSTRUMENT OF POLICY

Extracts from a paper read by SIR GEORGE PEPLER, C.B., F.R.I.C.S., Hon. A.R.I.B.A., P.P.T.P.I., to the Town Planning Institute, on April 5.

NO member of the Institute needs to be reminded that worthwhile Town and Country Planning must express a well thought out and clearly defined policy. One of our difficulties, however, is that this is not yet always appreciated by our masters, the should-be policy makers, national, local or personal. Another difficulty is that in so far as these masters have thought out policies in their respective fields of responsibility, they may have to be convinced that "the whole is greater than the part" and therefore give and take between them will be essential.

Policy is framed in order to achieve an end, which may be social, economic or visual, or a blend of two or of all three. In so far, however, as such policy affects the use of land it must take into account the form, shape and quality of the land itself. These attributes of land are the concern of the town planner and he must make the framers of policy aware of them and emphasise their importance in the framing of policy. Unfortunately this is not so easy as it sounds, because even now the obvious fact that land is the ultimate platform of all human activity is not fully appreciated.

In advising the framers of policy, the town planner must have in mind not only the character of the land itself but also the fact that one of the attributes of right use must be visual satisfaction. Once policy has been decided upon, it is the job of the town planner to organize, with colleague specialists, at thorough survey of all relevant factors and then design a plan. A plan which will match use and site and provide a pattern of land use in which agriculture will take its rightful place and on which the engineer, architect and landscape architect will be able to create works and buildings efficiently, economically and to their heart's desire.

National Policy

Fortunately there is a directive towards national policy as presumably the Minister of Local Government and Planning inherits the functions of the Minister of Town and Country Planning, whom he has superseded, and who was "charged with the duty of securing consistency and continuity in the framing and execution of a national policy with respect to the use and development of land throughout England and Wales."

. . . the responsibilities of the Minister make him in effect the keystone of the arch linking national and local policies.

Let us now consider some matters of national policy directly related to town and country planning, accepting as axiomatic the need for strict economy in the use of our limited land resources.

Employment

The Government Departments principally concerned are the Ministry of Labour, the Board of Trade (manufacturing industry and trade in general. including the tourist industry), the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Ministry of Fuel and Power (coal, gas and electricity). The Minister of Government and Planning appears to have taken under his wing surface worked and quarried minerals, with a view to co-ordinating their claims with those of other land users. However, when for example the extraction of limestone is in question in relation to cement making, the Minister of Works has a say.

We now have a national policy of full employment and many workers interpret this as always implying bringing work to the worker, including the attempt to induce new industries into areas of decaying industry which may not be at all well suited for new industry. Most of the virile workers in such areas will have already migrated to other areas where employment is to be found, but the older remnant has strong local ties and are likely to demand local reconstruction and revival. They may well be capable of exerting strong political pressure.

Policy with reference to full employment is bound up with policy in connection with population, because whatever may be the over-all national trends, population moves with opportunities for employment and therefore if work cannot in all cases be brought to the worker, our planning will have to provide for migration.

Among the factors to be considered are immigration and emigration . . . from 1871 to 1931 the balance of migration was outward, whereas since 1930 it had been inward.

Apart from anything else we cannot, at least on our present diet, grow enough food at home to support anything like our existing population. The Commonwealth is a family centred on Great Britain, "This precious stone set in the situation of the common of the common of the common of the family that we should keep bright that jewel, rather than lay more of it waste in order to find work for and maintain a much larger population than the fruits of our soil can feed.

1. Manufacturing industries.—The Board of Trade now has a potent voice in town and country planning since Section 14 (4) of the 1947 Act requires a local planning authority to obtain a certificate from the Board of Trade before it permits the erection of an industrial building exceeding 5,000

square feet in floor area. The Board has to certify that the erection of the proposed industrial building is consistent with the proper distribution of industry. But has the Board a policy with reference to such distribution, and if so, how is it related to the right use of the land of the country as a whole? The latter being the concern of the Minister of Local Government and Planning. So far as one is able to judge, the Board is at present so obsessed with (a) bolstering up the development areas, (b) export, that it fails to see the picture of the country as a whole.

If this apparent obsession persists it is bound to defeat the recommendations of the Barlow Commission with reference to decentralization (particularly from Greater London) and distribution, on social, economic and strategical grounds. On the one hand, it will hamstring small progressive country towns which with advantage could take more industry, and even New Towns which are part of Government policy but will be of no avail unless provided with industry; on the other hand, if every manufacturer of goods for export who prefers the amenities of our capital city is given way to, the decentralization policies of the County of London and Greater London Plans will be brought to naught.

2. Agriculture.—This is, I believe, still the greatest single provider of employment in this country. culture is, however, the primary land user and is the loser whenever land is taken for other purposes. Professor Dudley Stamp stated that the official target (presumably a combined effort of the Ministries of Agriculture and Food) for home-produced food was 55 per cent, of our total consumption, He also made clear that it would be difficult to reach that target on the present area devoted to agriculture and that, therefore, any further encroach-ments on that area would be dangerous. He then went on to mention some of the other main claimants for more of our limited supply of land, such as housing, industry, roads, defence services. claims were further scrutinized by Mr. G. P. Wibberley when he estimated that by 1970, 15 per cent. of the land area of England and Wales would be occupied by uses other than agriculture, as compared with 11 per cent. in 1939, According to Professor Dudley Stamp, we managed to produce 50 per cent, of our food during the war, despite wide-spread defence activities.

I do not propose to comment on these statements, but obviously they involve important national policy decisions with reference to the use of land, for example: (a) Must our development plans be designed on the assumption

that this country is and will remain in a state of siege? If so, we may have to sacrifice some amenity and good living for food. Also large areas will be required permanently for battle training and works related to defence. (b) is any acceptable and healthful change of diet possible that would enable us to feed ourselves with food grown on our present agricultural acreage? (c) Is a more equable distribution of population within the Commonwealth possible? If so, we can relieve the pressure on the homeland and may not have to lay so much of it waste by industry for export.

The Ministry of Agriculture has a definite policy and is reluctant to allow any more land to be taken out of cultivation for other purposes. It even suggests that urban densities should be increased in order that agricultural land should be saved. . . It is my belief that the sound way to effect economies in the amount of land required for urban uses is by skilful planning, free from any element of straggle or sprawl; not by raising densities above those, for example, enunciated by the Study Group of the Ministry of Town and Country Planning in their contribution to the Report of the Dudley Committee.

- 3. Forestry.—Forestry is not a great employer of labour but the policy of the Forestry Commission to plant 5 million acres in all in Great Britain indicates that it is a big land-user. By and large, forestry is not a factor that affects urban settlement, but there is some competition between it and upland farming, it may be affected by mineral extraction, and its relationship to National Parks and Nature Reserves calls for careful planning.
- 4. Minerals.—The winning and processing of minerals is a major source of employment and the basis of many other industries, including many on whose products we rely for the export trade by which we live. It is therefore of fundamental importance, although by its nature a wasting asset, and unfortunately the extraction of minerals and the disposal of mineral waste devastate considerable areas of land.

The Coal Board has produced a national programme, which will involve some shifts of population, e.g., from West to East Scotland, and since the extraction of coal, because, interalia, of its pit heaps and the subsidence it causes, produce acute problems in land use, it is obvious that national coal planning by the Coal Board and surface planning by the local planning authorities will need most careful coordination.

Other minerals are dealt with in *The Control of Mineral Working* issued by the Ministry of Town and Country Planning, in January this year, just prior to its change of name.

The following quotation indicates the desire of the Ministry to co-ordinate the policies of the various Government Departments concerned, the various branches of the minerals industry and the local planning authorities:

the local planning authorities:
"The Ministry of Town and Country Planning, in consultation with the Government Departments con-

cerned with the production of particular minerals, is accordingly arranging with the various branches of the minerals industry for much of the minerals industry for much of the necessary information to be compiled centrally. When it is available, regional discussions will normally be arranged between representatives of the local planning authorities, the Ministry of Town and Country Planning, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the appropriate Production Department, and the Industry, to examine the problems involved, and, if possible, reach agreement on their solution."

- Transport.-Transport is a big employer of labour but as planners we are mainly concerned in the routes of its roads and railways, its aerodromes and ports. These must obviously provide an integrated national framework of communications and equally obviously it must be linked up with and Much of land serve the localities. transport has been nationalised and the Ministry of Transport is now responsible for over 8,300 miles of trunk roads and has projected a number of national routes, some of which we hope will be motor-ways. No extension of main railway lines seems probable, and the No extension of main very necessary improvement of road access to some docks is mainly a matter of local planning. A system of national, regional and local airfields must be devised not only because of its intrinsic importance but also because of the considerable areas affected by the air approaches which must be kept clear of obstructions.
- 6. The Tourist Industry.—This deserves mention not only as a considerable source of employment but also because any recession of our export industries would increase its value as a dollar earner. Apart from the improvement of our hotels and the relaxation of our archaic licensing laws, matters outside the province of the town planner, the encouragement of the industry involves a good deal of cleaning up in addition to the careful preservation of our remaining treasures of historic buildings, country towns and villages and landscape.

The Regional Offices of Government Departments.—These are not major sources of employment but I place them in the list because they are an instance of the repercussions of national upon local policy. The authors of the Cambridge plan request all Departments to limit severely their own offers of additional jobs in the Cambridge district and point out that in Cambridge the process has already begun of firms which have much to do with the regional offices of Government Departments establishing offices in the town.

Defence and National Parks

Other matters of national policy which notably affect land use but which hardly affect employment problems related to town and country planning, are Civil Defence, Military Defence, and National Parks.

Civil Defence.—This again raises the question as to whether we are to plan

on the assumption that we are and shall continue to be in a state of siege.

Civil Defence is, however, unhappily a necessity at the present time, and the town planner can take it into account in the following ways: with reference to underground defence, he will have to bear in mind the location of quickly accessible, carefully spaced and easily found shelters in residential, commercial and industrial areas. The ways to them must be wide enough to allow ready access but not so wide as to raise the danger of congestion.

Overground, the present policy of reconstruction and thinning out of congested areas and dispersal of population and industry into smaller units, including New Towns, coincides with the policy of Civil Defence and new congestion must not be allowed to take place.

Military Defence.—During the second World War, 11,547,000 acres (or about 20·5%) of the land of Great Britain were held or used by the Services for training purposes. Over 10 million acres have since been released and the requirements for all Service purposes, in 1947, was 1,027,200 acres, or 1·83%, of which some 40% already belonged to the Services. On 10th March, 1950 the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Agriculture stated that the Service Departments then held 817,000 acres in Great Britain (1·45%), of which 286,000 were let to farmers and nearly 100,000 acres to County Agricultural Committees.

The fact that some of the land required for training purposes overlaps areas recommended for National Parks and that many military airfields encroach upon good agricultural land is much to be regretted, but national defence is of paramount importance. Careful planning can, however, secure adjustments between these rival land uses and it is but another example of the importance of the Minister of Planning as an adjuster of national policies which affect land use.

National Parks.-The National Parks Committee recommended the creation of twelve National Parks, with a total acreage amounting to nearly ten per cent. of the area of England and Wales, and lying within twenty-five counties, Conservation Areas totalling another seventeen per cent. I feel sure that we all wish the National Parks Commission the best of luck in the contribution they are making towards the realization of this national policy. It in no sense involves steri-lizing twenty-seven per cent. of our land, but it should establish a priority for amenity over that area, when the claims of land-users are under con-A priority which, as regards National Park Areas, has, as previously noted, already come second best in relation to some battle-training areas. has also had to give way to intensified cement making in the Peak District and is in jeopardy with reference to hydro-electric projects in Snowdonia.

National Action

Some of the items I have listed involve plans on a national scale, but this



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Part of the works canteen recently furnished by Heal's Contracts Ltd., for Messrs. John Mackintosh & Sons Ltd., Caley Branch, Norwich. The metal stacking chairs are painted green and the table tops are buff coloured "Formica". The curtains are of green woven linen.

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Telegrams: WALKERS, WALSALL. London Office: 66 Victoria Street, S.W.I paper is only intended to deal with policy and the duty of the Minister of Local Government and Planning does not go beyond "securing consistency and continuity in the framing and exe cution of a national policy with respect to the use and development of land"—in itself a terrific job since the examples I have quoted make manifest that the framing and execution of such a policy involves the co-ordination of many national policies, some of which have yet to be framed.

In applying national policy to the full weight must be given to local conditions, circumstances and aspira-tions. It is not therefore intended that a national plan of land use should be designed and imposed from above. On the contrary, such a plan will in the main be built up from local and regional plans, and this I believe to be right, although it is high time that the gaps in regional planning should be filled

On the other hand the Ministry is providing a most useful background for local and regional planners, with its National Atlas and memoranda. We all hope that the Research Section of the Ministry will be fully maintained and, in addition, look forward to this year's consus for more essential in. year's census for more essential in-formation on a national scale.

Local Policy

In my experience, it is only in comparatively recent years that local authorities have begun to appreciate that the function or functions the places they are in charge of are best fitted to perform should be a dominant factor in the planning of those places. It the planning of those places. It demands policy decisions based on a thorough understanding, through survey and diagnosis, of past, present and prospective conditions, circumstances and prospects, regional and national trends and policies.

Regional and national policies must be taken fully into account but unless the aims of local policy have been thought out, the local authority cannot make any intelligent contribution to the framing of national policy, and will simply have to accept the destiny allotted to it by others. Local aims will have brought into harmony with national and regional or county policy, but at least they should be formulated

and expressed.

An excellent example of the need for a policy decision on functions is pre-sented by the Cambridge Plan. As the authors point out, "up to 1860 the authors point out, the Cambridge was a university and market town and a rail centre . . Up to 1921 the growth of the University was the growth of the University was largely responsible for the growth of Cambridge." They then go on to describe recent industrial developments, the additions due to its being made a regional centre of Central Government, and the attractions that the place has for residence and industry. After considering all these matters they come to the conclusion that any fresh growth would both hinder the work of the University and make the town* a much less pleasant place in which to live and work.

Cambridge Town Council is not a planning authority and therefore this is an interesting example of the need for co-ordination between local policy and county policy, full weight being given to the fact that the County Council, as the local planning authority, is in direct contact with the national planning authority and is equipped with a competent planning staff. Also in this case both county and town have the great advantage of a Plan prepared by an eminent consultant and colleague

The Co-ordination of National and Local Policies

Employment.-The Barlow Commission was wholeheartedly in favour of decentralisation or dispersal of industries and industrial population from congested urban areas, and of their unanimous recommendations, as a means of achieving it, was that existing small towns should be I personally know of several extended. small towns that could with advantage be so extended and where the local authority is eager to play its part and to which industries would have been glad to come, but so far their ardour has been checked from above merely because they have not in the past suffered seriously from unemployment. In my submission this is not only the yardstick which should be applied Within limits, local enterprise and enthusiasm should be taken into account.

The paper recently presented to the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors by Mr. E. H. Doubleday, veyors by Mr. E. H. Doubleday, County Planning Officer, Hertfordshire, is discouraging with reference to liaison between Government Departments and local planning authorities. He says, As yet, there is no connecting link between the Government Departments concerned with the distribution of industry on a national scale, the local planning authority concerned with the selection and siting of industry in its area, and the developing authorities also concerned with these with the provision of industry to employ incoming population.'

Minerals,-Local policy as function of a place may be profoundly affected by mineral deposits. They may be the mainstay of local employment or they might impair the assets of amenity of a residential town or health resort, unless both the winning and processing of the mineral are most carefully planned. Also there must be careful timing of underground and surface development in places where the latter can take place after minerals have been extracted and the surface has settled down.

Transport.-Any national system of roads must be principally concerned with linking up main centres of traffic strategical considerations. with Unimpeded and safe flow at high speed is the principal objective. Consequently, points of access must be reduced to a minimum and such junctions should be of the clover-leaf or equivalent type, and these are costly to provide. Since such junctions must be key points in local planning, their precise location is

obviously a matter in which the local planning authority has a deep interest. Also, since the purpose of main through routes would be defeated were frontage development allowed, they will sharply divide the areas they traverse and this presents a pretty problem for local planners who also have II keen interest in possible modifications of alignment in interest of amenity and local arrangements.

The recently published report of the Inter-Departmental Committee appointed by the Minister of Civil Aviation (M.C.A.P.92., H.M.S.O.) indicates that the helicopter is likely to become an important medium of transport in this country since it is particu-larly well suited for distances between 50 and 300 miles.

The Tourist Industry

The tourist industry is largely de-pendent upon amenity and it is worth noting that local policy may be sounder than national policy in such a matter, witness the controveries over the Westminster Hospital site and Carlton House Terrace, and local resistence to the incursions of defence services into areas of great beauty attractive to the rambler and the tourist. There should at least be a local policy capable of expression when national policy is declared, and such local policy must be taken into account before a balanced decision is arrived at.

National Parks.—It will probably be generally agreed that as such parks are national, both national and park considerations must prevail. Nevertheless, on the national scale, consideration has to be given to the claims of mineral working and of the defence services. At the local level some adjustments of boundaries may be justifiable. Local authorities may also have views as to management and control, and have every right to express them.

Conclusion

There are hardly any subjects with which Central and Local Government are concerned that do not affect the use of land. A point I have tried to make is that those who frame policies on such subjects should realize that they will be applied to land of widely varying characteristics and present uses. Ours is still a fair land but it is limited in quantity and almost all of it that can be used is already in use. Consequently, if conflict and waste are to be avoided, there must be a careful adjustment of policies. In this adjustment, local considerations must be given due weight and, to ensure this, local authorities must be ready with their own policies.

As I see it, the main function of the members of our profession is to design plans, based on survey and diagnosis, that will enable both national and local policies to be applied to the development of land and conservation of land resources, in a manner which will further the convenience, health, happiness, efficiency and visual satisfaction of those living and working upon it. It surely follows that the framers of these policies will be well advised to consult us as they proceed.

^{*} Now the City.

News of the BUILDING INDUSTRY

INTEREST

PLASTICS of all descriptions will be shown at the British Plastics Exhibition to be held from June 6-16 at Olympia. Side by side with the exhibition, will be a convention at which prominent speakers will discuss con-temporary applications of plastics.

So far as building is concerned there has been, in recent years, considerable advance in the use of plastics. Undoubtedly there is in the use of plastics. Undoubtedly there is still a feeling in some architectural quarters that plastics are not yet perfect. Criticism will be put forward in a paper to be read by Gontran Goulden, T.D., A.R.I.B.A., at 2.30, p.m. on June 11, and Mr. H. H. Lustry, A.M.LE.E., will explain what the plastics industry can and does offer to the building industry

This session will provide an opportunity for open discussion of the problems facing the

for open discussion of the problems facing the industry in using plastics for building.

There is no charge for admission to the convention sessions. Tickets to secure a seat may be obtained from British Plastics, Dorset House, Stamford Street, London, S.E.1.

ASBESTOS-raw, fibre and waste and asphalt

ASBESTOS—rew, note and waste and aspiralt and bitumen are added to the list of goods freely importable from all, including hard currency, countries from March 28.

Red cedar shingles, manganese ore and refractory or heat insulating bricks and blocks are also on the list published by the Board of

A FALL OF ELEVEN FEET on to a concrete A FALL OF ELEVEN FEET on to a concrete floor resulted in a Hull bricklayer being awarded £15,000 damages against his former employers. The accident occurred when the bricklayer was pointing a factory wall. Mr. Justice Wallington ruled that the defence of contributory negligence had no place.

THE BOARD OF TRADE announce that the President has appointed Sir Colin S. Anderson to be a member of the Council of Industrial Design. Sir Colin is a Director of Anderson, Green & Co. Ltd., shipowners. He is Chair-man of the Royal College of Arts, President of the Design and Industries Association, a member of the Arts Panel of the Arts Council, a member of the Council of the Institute of Naval Architects, and was President of the Chamber of Shipping for the year ended February 1950.

THE PLANT HIRE RATES Committee of the M.o.W. have recommended a schedule

of rates for net cost and similar items in con-nection with the hire of contractors' plant. Paragraph 1 (b) of Part II of the Schedule to the Control of Rates of Hire of Plants Order 1950 (S.I. 1950, No. 2060) states that the cost of fuel, lubricating oils, grease and drivers or operators provided by the letter on hire shall be charged at net cost or at an agreed estimate of net cost and that charges for the wire ropes to be paid for as consumable stores shall also be at net cost or at an agreed estimate of net cost.

Where it is desired to arrive at such an agreed estimate the figures given by the M.o.W. are considered to be fair charges; they do not cover fuel or subsistence allowance paid to the driver or operator. The rates have no Statutory Authority and their use should be matter of prior arrangement between the parties concerned.

THORN ELECTRICAL INDUSTRIES LIM-ITED have been awarded the Term Contract for the supply of fluorescent lighting fittings to all R.A.F. stations and Air Ministry establishments at home and overseas.

AT WANDSWORTH COUNTY COURT Messrs. Douglas Bros. (Builders) Ltd., of Wilcox Road, S.W.8. recently sought to re-cover from Mr. E. B. Mellor the sum of 15s, for services rendered in estimating and measuring for work to be carried out in the conversion into three flats of Woodmansterne, Putney Heath, S.W.15, on the grounds that their tender being the lowest should have

The plaintiffs alleged that they had advised the defendant on the previous tenders re-ceived and on the items of the specification which could be eliminated in order to reduce the cost of the works and that they had pre pared a revised specification upon which they had estimated.

Mr. Batten, the manager of the plaintiffs, in evidence, alleged that there was an agree ment that if they could reduce the costs within certain limits they would receive the contract and that although they had tendered below this limit their tender had not been accepted. In cross-examination he persisted that the original claim for waste of time in estimating had not been abandoned and that in addition the claim covered advice on the previous ders and revisions in the specification.

The defendant stated he had not sought the advice, nor would he have accepted advice

from the plaintiffs, that he gave instructions only, and that he himself had revised the architect's specification which had contained works of repair and items unnecessarily creasing the amount for which a building licence was to be applied for. The defendant further stated that he had accepted a higher tender after careful consideration of quality ship and other matters

Judge Hodgson, giving judgment, stated that he was unable to accept the evidence given on behalf of the plaintiffs. In the result, the plaintiffs' claim, whether for loss of time in estimating, or for alleged advice, or for loss of profit on an alleged breach of contract wholly failed and judgment must be entered for the defendant with costs on fixed scale

OVERSEAS BUYERS are being organised into special parties to visit the British Industries Fair at Earls Court and Olympia in London and at Castle Bromwich, Birmingham, from April 30 to May 11

Buyer delegations are expected from Hong Kong and Palestine and notifications have also been received of proposed parties from Norway and Switzerland

The Hong Kong delegation will be led by Mr. U. Tat Chee, vice-chairman of the Chinese Manufacturers' Union. His 1951 mission will be the largest yet.

This year's trip is an effort to regain the commercial and industrial prosperity of Hong Kong which is said to be endangered A B.I.F. party of between 30 and 40 Arab

business men from Palestine is being organ-ised by Mr. Hanna Nazzal, director of the General Manufacturing Company of Jerusalem, whose party should arrive at the Fair on or about May I.

THE ASSOCIATION OF BUILDING TECHNICIANS is to hold its Diploma Examination for Clerks of Works in London and Glasgow on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, May 17, 18, 19, Other centres will be arranged according to demand.

The examination is being held later than

on previous occasions because of the early Easter vacation and also to enable provincial candidates travelling to London to visit the

Copies of the syllabus and application forms copies of the synatus and application forms and previous examination papers may be obtained from the General Secretary, Association of Building Technicians, 5 Ashley Place, London, S.W.I.

MESSRS. JOHN LAWRENCE (GLASGOW) Ltd., of West Regent Street, Glasgow, have received approval from the Dean of Guild for a 326-house scheme at Broomhill and Balshaa 320-library and a sale and are the first of the type to be built sale and are the first of the type to be built sale and are the war. The scheme in in the city since the war. The scheme in-volves varied units from semi-detached to four, six, eight and ten houses per block. Garages and lockups are being provided. The firm anticipates that the first of these houses will be erected by the end of the year. Cost will be from £1,550 to £1,670.

GLASGOW CORPORATION is planning to go ahead with the schemes for deep shelters-cum-car parks at Blythswood Square and Balmaro Street. The various committees interested have passed the proposal to the Civil Defence Committee asking their approval and seeking; grant on the basis that these shelters will form part of the Civil Defence programme of the city. When not required as shelters they will be used as car parks.



HONOURS FOR CRAFTSMANSHIP

Mr. R. R. Stokes, M.C., Minister of Works, presented British Empire Medals recently a three crafts mr. n. K. Stokes, m. L., Munister of Works, presented British Empire Medals recently in three craftsmen for long and good service. They were to Joseph Graham (ged 64) who did is great deal of the wood carving in the new House of Commons, Andrew Shearer (72) who was foreman mason fixer for the new House, and Walter Smith, principal storekeeper at the Ministry, who has had 39 years' service. Above, left to right, are Mr. Graham, the Minister of Works, Mr. Smith and Mr. Shearer.

GOOD, BAD OR INDIFFERENT?

No. 30-By A. FOREMAN

Kitchen Fitments.

THE days of the old open-dresser and a sink without draining boards as the only fitments in a kitchen, have gone, and slowly we are equipping our properly as a means of helping the over-worked housewife. It is desirable that as soon as possible all storage in kitchens should take the form of cupboards and I am often asked at what height the working levels, such as the tops of dwarf cupboards and draining-boards, should be made in order to meet the needs of the unknown householder whose size must of necessity be very variable. Undoubtedly much compromise is needed as it is quite impossible to provide correct heights in a small kitchen such as most houses or flats have to-day to suit every major operation.

Some years ago B.S.1195 for built-in kitchen fitments was prepared and in this the working level of 3 ft. was set out for all built-in fitments; this was undoubtedly a compromise and it seems likely that the decision was taken to meet the desire for one continuous level for the working surfaces right round the room and also to reduce junctions between units to a minimum by providing continuous tops over a series of separate units. The minimum of joints in working tops is very desirable as

cracks can easily become unhygienic.

I have always felt that 3 ft. is rather high for most people to do many operations in the kitchen although it is the desirable height for draining-boards and sinks since it puts the inside bottom of the sink at about 2 ft. 3 in. above the floor. Un-necessarily low heights are equally unsatisfactory as they involve stooping, which is extremely tiring. It should be borne in mind that the average householder does not perform any one operation in the kitchen for any great length of time and it is likely that the time spent at the sink is considerably greater than any other opera-

In recent years I have been told that, abroad, research has been carried out to try and arrive at what are proper heights. I have not heard of any authoritative similar study in this country. Last summer I noticed in Scandinavia that as the result of research it seems that two heights are being adopted, namely 3 ft. for sinks and the associated draining-boards and about 2 ft. 10 in. for all other surfaces including the cooker tops. I also saw a slide-out working surface at about 2 ft. 3 in, above the floor for use when sitting on a normal chair to cut up or mix food.

I have come to the conclusion that it would probably be wise to adopt the two height scheme in this country, based on 3 ft. for sink units and 2 ft. 10 in. for the other fittings, as being likely to provide more comfortable conditions

A matter in relation to heights of equipment which I hear criticized very often is the height of gas and electric cooker tops. Heights of 3 ft, and more are certainly too great for comfort when stirring in a large saucepan. I feel sure that the working top level could be reduced to 2 ft. 10 in. without making the oven top too small or placing it too near the floor; high level ovens at the side of boiling tops are much to be preferred; the space in the normal

kitchen as we now have seldom permits

stitchen as we now have seldom permits sufficient space for their use.

I notice that sliding doors are often used on cupboards in kitchens, sometimes of metal or wood and sometimes of glass. I appreciate that these have advantages but there are also disadvantages: firstly, sliding doors are the cause of many damaged fingers and, secondly, they run on tracks or in grooves which make the cleaning of bottom shelves more difficult. I think it is best to avoid glass fronts as the contents few storage cupboards can be kept

I find that most metal fittings are very noisy and, on the whole, seem to stand up to usage less well than the wooden ones, but the construction of the latter needs to be good, especially in regard to doors of which one sees far too many which have warped or twisted because the construction is poor; if the methods of door construction given in B.S.1195 are followed and proper are is taken there should be little trouble from defective doors

This brings me to the matter of hardware, which is often really dreadful not only in regard to quality but also as to type. Again the hinges and handles suggested in B.S.1195 seem worth following, parti-cularly the "D" type handle which is of a decent size and has a sound method of fixing which does not leave shanks of

bolts and nuts projecting.

I much prefer kitchen units which have their own backs as these not only strengthen the construction of the units but also make for increased cleanliness. When backs are used the plaster behind may be omitted used the plaster behind may be omitted and in any case plaster is not a very good material for use inside cupboards while it is also difficult to make a good junction between the cupboard and the wall. A small but important point in connection with installation is that on several occasions
I have seen attempts made to bring on to nave seen attempts made to bring on to jobs sets of cupboards the full height of the rooms in which they are to be fixed and then it has been found impossible to "up end" them. Always make the upper cupthen it has been found impossible to "up-end" them. Always make the upper cup-boards separately and join them together on the job and even then keep them at least I in. short of the ceiling and put a cover fillet over the space. It is as well to take cupboards to the ceiling although they are only useful for "dead storage" as it is a good way of eliminating dust on the tops of the firite. of the fittings.

One last point, try and ensure that the walls behind fitments are reasonably well dried out before installation of the units especially wooden ones, which in any case it is wise to treat with bitumastic paint on the faces against solid walls or partitions.

THE PRINCIPLES OF STRUCTURAL WELDING

No. 5 - By Rolt Hammond, A.C.G.I., A.M.I.C.E.

STUD WELDING

THE use of portable stud welding equip-ment can be employed with great The use of portable stud welding equip-ment can be employed with great advantage in the building and construc-tional fields for various erection and assembly applications. This process re-quires a direct current supply for which a direct current welding generator with drooping characteristics or of the constant voltage type is suitable. The voltage should be between 60 and 100 volts, the current taken depending upon the diameter of the stud being welded to the plate, a brass stud of \(\frac{1}{2}\) in. diameter requiring 200 amps, whilst a stud with diameter of \(\frac{3}{4}\) in. required

In stud welding, the stud is brought into ontact with the plate which is cleaned and prepared for the operation; the stud being connected to the positive side of the supply and the plate to the negative side of the supply and the plate to the negative pole. When the stud is pulled away from the plate, an arc is formed which raises the temperature of both brass stud and steel plate. After a predetermined interval of time, which is provided by automatic means, the stud is nushed home, the current is broken and the operation is complete and also completely automatic. The method can be employed for welding steel studs on steel plate and excellent results have been achieved with studs of at least § in. diameter. Experience has proved that studs can be welded on to steel plate under water, which may be a great advantage in certain types of building and constructional work.

Stud welding has now been developed to a high pitch of efficiency in this country.

(continued on page 405)

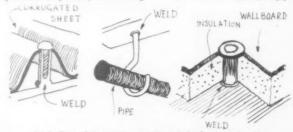
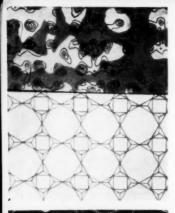
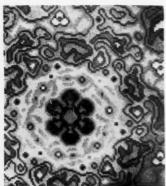


Fig. 6. Three of the numerous possible methods of using stud welding.







FINISHES D5/1 PLASTICS, ETC.

Two: applications of crystal structure diagrams to building material are shown in this illustration of patterns incorporated in plastic sheet. The designs by Martin Rowlands were derived from the crystal structure diagrams of Apophyllic and Afwillice. A pattern derived from Hydrargillice has been used by the same designer in a table top.

FINISHES WALLPAPER

Designed by Robert Sevant using the crystal structure diagram of Insulin, this wallipaper pattern compared with the carpet pattern below shows that the same original diagram allows the designer considerable flexibility of interpretation.

FINISHES TEXTILES

Insulin provides the basic crystal structure diagram for this carpet design the pattern repeat being 81 in. 103 in. This pattern may be compared with the wallpaper, above, and the Inioleum, below. All three are derived from the Insulin diagram.

FINISHES PLASTICS, ETC.

A design for linoleum by E. H. Tee, The pattern repeat is 18 in. 2 ft. The names of manufacturers who have cooperated in marketing these designs will be given on application. Some are contained in the list given on this page.

D5 2

MOSAICS

The names and addresses of manufacturers of any item illustrated in MOSAICS, together with more detailed information relating to their products—including price and availability—will be forwarded to readers on request.

Letters should quote the serial number and be addressed to :

The Associate Editor,
The Architect and Building News,
Dorset House,
Stamford Street, S.E.1.
Please mark the envelope MOSAICS.

FESTIVAL PATTERN GROUP

Twenty-six leading British manufacturers have been working together at the invitation of the Council of Industrial Design for some eighteen months upon a programme of design development in connection with the Festival of Britain. Four examples of the results of this work are published alongside, and will be seen at the Festival exhibition.

The products illustrated are all decorated with patterns derived from crystal structure diagrams—the maps drawn by scientists to record the arrangement of the atom in particular materials. A crystal structure diagram takes the form of a repeating symmetrical pattern.

The patterns vary in character according to the different materials examined, or the different features in a particular material brought out in the diagram or the difference in plane at which the cross-section has been taken.

Industrial designers have adapted the diagrams to their own media. These crystal structure diagrams have the discipline of exact repetitive symmetry, and are full of rich variety which may do much to replace hackneyed traditional patterns.

Of the twenty-six manufacturers who have co-operated in this scheme the following have close connections with architecture and building:—

Messrs. Carter & Co., Ltd., Chance Bros. Ltd., the Dunlop Rubber Co. Ltd., the General Electric Co. Ltd., G. A. Harvey & Co. (London) Ltd., I.C.I. Ltd., Leathercloth division, Warerite Ltd., and John Line & Warerite Ltd., and John Line & Gons Ltd. The centre for the display of these patterns at the Festival will be the Regatta restaurant at the South Bank, which was designed by Mr. Mischa Black.



continued from page 403;

Welded studs of both standard and special types are now being used to supersede conventional methods of fixing walling, roofing, pipes, cables and heat insulation, to mention only a few examples common in building construction.

Lines and pipes can be supported with hook studs. This eliminates drilling and manual welding. A third example of fixing is the use of welded studs for securing asbestos-cement boards and insulation. In this case hollow female studs and drive screws with 1-inch diameter flat head washers are used; holes of § inch diameter are first drilled in the asbestos-cement sheeting at the required centres, the board is then held in position and the studs are welded through the holes. In this case, after welding the ceramic ferrules are left in the holes. Drive screws are then hammered into each stud securing the material.

At the present stage of development, automatic stud welding can be used for attaching a variety of components to structures by employing special fixtures and jigs that will enable the gun to operate in the most convenient and efficient manner possible. Stud welding saves time and it is claimed that as many as 14 studs can be welded on to steel plate in the time taken to fit one by drilling and tapping. Moreover, simplified design results from adopting stud welding. Appearance and economy of construction are two further important points in favour of stud welding.

points in favour of stud welding. The weld between the stud and the base metal is gas, oil and water-tight, and additional mechanical strength is obtained by not perforating the plate. A gun (Fig. 7) has been designed for welding studs ranging in diameter from 1 inch to 1 inch at the rate of from 150 to 300 an hour, according to the size of the stud and the purpose for

For large scale quantity production the gun may be used either as a hand tool, or it can be mounted in a fixture for repetition work, a number of guns being mounted together for multiple stud welding. The welding supply varies from 60 to 90 volts direct current and this can be obtained from a recently developed metal rectifier. Alternatively the current can be obtained from an ordinary welding generator, or even from battery units if no power supply is readily available. The supply leads for the welding current can be up to 200 feet long without affecting the operation of the gun. A separate timing control unit is housed in a portable case and is connected in the circuit for automatic control of the welding cycle.

In operation, the stud is held in a chuck at the base of the gun and a ceranic ferrule is placed over the free end and retained by a special holder. The end of the stud is then positioned on the base metal and pressed down against a spring STUD WITH CERAMIC FERRULE
SUPPORTING LEGS

Fig. 7. Above, a photograph of a stud welding gun and right, a drawing showing the attachment of supporting legs to ensure right angled fixing of the stud. Fig. 8.

to make contact, the contact surface being cleaned by a small current flowing through it which burns away scale and dirt. Positive indication of good contact is given by a robust pilet lamp fitted to the pistol grip of the gun. This is particularly valuable for "blind" welding where the stud is being located through a hole, when the gun cannot be positioned visually.

After having correctly, positioned the

cannot be positioned visually.

After having correctly positioned the gun, all the operator has to do is to hold it still and press the trigger. This action closes the main contactor and allows the full current to flow the stud being at the same time lifted and the arc struck. The arc is extinguished after a predetermined interval by a relay in the timer opening the main contactor. Welding is therefore completely controlled by the timer. It is therefore impossible for the weld time selected for a particular job to vary. If the trigger is pressed inadvertently during the welding operation, the timing mechanism will not begin a second sequence. Thus the operator cannot interfere with the welding cycle.

CONCLUSION

It is of the utmost importance that all components to be joined by welding shall be accurately fitted together to a higher degree than is generally considered necessary with riveted work. Furthermore, in order to gain the maximum possible advantage from welded construction, the quantity of weld metal deposited should be the least possible consistent with the provision of n:cessary strength. It is wasteful to employ added weld metal for making good deficiencies arising from badly assembled plate work. The addition of more weld metal than is necessary for strength at the joint will often cause locked-in stresses which can bring about very undesirable stress concentrations.

The use of accurate machines for the oxygen-cutting of plates to fine limits of accuracy is an important contributory factor in ensuring well fitting assemblies. With the equipment now available, a clean edge is left, accurately trimmed and ready for welding; oxygen-cutting machines are obtainable which can cut a flat root and two bevels on the edge of a plate at the same

time with three cutting nozzles. This is a great advantage for butt welding of thick plates. The objection is sometimes raised against oxygen cutting that a heat-affected zone is left on the plate after cutting, but experience has proved that the depth of this is more than masked by the heat put into the plate when the welding operation takes place. The outstanding advantage which oxygen-cutting has over shearing and planing is that considerable time and labour will be saved because material will not have to be diverted to the planing and shearing machines.

Careful consideration should be given to problems of distortion when bevelled plate edges are employed for welding, because where the material is comparatively thick it is desirable to employ a double vee but joint, even if this will result in more overhead welding than is required for a normal scaling run. Generally speaking it is found in practice that less distortion results from employing a high welding current than by employing a large number of runs of light gauge electrodes. Also, less distortion is produced by intermittent than by continuous welding. Where a structural member is welded from one side only, a back sealing run is necessary wherever possible and the design of the joint should allow for this. Indeed, the British Standards Institution have declared that where a sealing run cannot be applied the effective strength of the joint is reduced by a half.

Finally, it is necessary to stress the importance of designing a welded structure

Finally, it is necessary to stress the importance of designing a welded structure in such a manner that the sequence of welding avoids, as far as possible, an accumulation of locked-up stress. Arrangements should be made for as much downhand welding as possible to be done in building the structure. The number of components should be limited to the minimum. Plates should be employed rather than rolled sections, and any welding in a confined space should be avoided by suitable design. Castings should be eliminated as far as possible. The production of a successful welded structure depends ultimately upon effective supervision and correct welding current, the latter having become increasingly important with the present tendency towards the employment of large gauge electrodes which provide deep penetration of the weld.

QUANTITY SURVEYOR, ARCHITECT. CONTRACTOR AND CLIENT

Extracts from a paper on "The Relation-ships between the Quantity Surveyor and Architect, Contractor and Client" read by H. A. Ackland, O.B.E., F.R.I.C.S. at the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors General Meeting on March 14.

I have been asked to treat this subject in a somewhat lighter vein than is customary, and I am particularly pleased to do so as I believe that, whilst we quantity surveyors certainly cannot do our work in a flippant manner, we must retain some sense of

humour to keep our sanity.

It should be made clear at the outset that the views I express are my own and do not necessarily reflect those of the Quantity

Surveyors Committee.

contractors and Architects. surveyors alike have all recently been the subject of exhortation, admonition, advice and dictation from all directions. We have had the reports of Working Parties, Pro-ductivity Teams, articles in technical journals and other dissertations, and out of this welter there has certainly come some good. The cardinal need appears to be better understanding of the "other fellow's" problems. To get this we must first under-stand his functions. We must not try to perform them for him, but to dovetail our own into the whole pattern. Any advance in the efficiency of our building contracting system depends on our good relations one with another.

First I would like to discuss our relation-ships with architects. I have on previous occasions likened the architect to the captain of a cricket team, whilst an architect friend of mine (who may be here to-night) has likened him to the conductor of an orchestra, who need not be able to play every instrument. If we pursue this a little further, we might find the quantity surveyor always playing second fiddle, although the choice of this instrument may seem inappropriate. We must all realize the fact that we are separate professions, interlocked perhaps, but most certainly independent. There has never been such a person as an "architect and quantity surveyor," and I have yet to be convinced that the architect or engineer who attempts to perform the functions of a and with service to the client, and not with financial considerations, however slight.

Many architects are our friends, but we have laboured under some disadvantage in the past since the distribution of patronage has been largely in the hands of the archi-We welcome signs that the architectural profession is treating us less as an appendage, and more as an important element in the whole contracting scheme and to this extent there has unquestionably been great improvement in our relation-

ships

In technical journals and elsewhere we poor quantity surveyors are constantly being informed that our efficiency and energy are contributing to the slackness and shortcomings of the architects. This is a change from the former contention that were blaming the architects for lack of information to enable us to get on with our work. There has been much loose talk regarding the shortcomings of architects in providing us with information. No good can come from making uncharitable com-parisons regarding the efficiency and energy respective professions justified in placing on the architect all the blame for delay in preparing and carrying out a project? It would certainly assist greatly to solve our difficulties if the architect would call the quantity surveyor into consultation at a very much earlier stage in the proceedings than is customary; in fact, as soon as he has received instructions from the client. There are many matters, such as points of construction, availability of materials and local conditions, upon which the quantity surveyor can give sound advice before the working drawings stage reached, and there need be no dignity. On many occasions we find that in the early stages an approximate estimate has been given of figures arrived at of which we have no knowledge and which are rather urrealistic in the light of the tenders received. Vital changes may have been made in the scope and detail of the project, but the earlier this is established then the sooner the client can be made acquainted with the fact. Instead of keeping the surveyor in the background and perhaps regarding him merely as a necessary evil. cannot the architect give him a more prominent place in the discussions with the client? I know there is a growing tendency for architects to bring the surveyor into the meetings with the employer, but too often this does not happen until a post mortem is being held on the final accounts. Fortunately we are not often involved in

disputes or extreme differences of opinion between client and architect. When however such situations do arise the surveyor must exercise the greatest diplomacy tact, and we must always remember that, while the employer is one party to the contract, the architect is its administrating officer. If called on to give material in-formation we must disclose it in the interests both parties, but whatever action we demonstrate should clearly

complete impartiality, despite the stresses of any conflicting loyalties.

I am not completely familiar with the present-day scope of architectural training. but I see no great evidence of extensive knowledge of the "commercial" side of the work if I may so term it. The framing of contracts, the placing of sub-contracts, and the issue of variations orders are some of the important matters upon which greater stress might well be laid and more light and guidance given. For that matter the young quantity surveyor could be benefited in a like manner. We appreciate that the creative artist has neither a great deal of treative artist has neither a great deat of time nor the inclination to concern himself with mundane matters such as timber permits, licences and the written confirmation of orders, but a more general attention to the latter alone would add materially to the expectation of life of the materially to the expectation of life of the quantity surveyor.

I am greatly concerned about our relationships with officers in the public service. There are instances where the authority does not allow letters to be issued over the signature of the chief or senior quantity surveyor. Then there are architects to authorities who have to issue instructions that disagree with the Practice Notes of the Joint Contracts Tribunal and the like. Conditions of this kind must have the inevitable result of robbing the quantity surveyors employed by these authorities of the last shreds of independent thought and action. The nominated or "outside" surveyor suffers in a similar manner to some degree. I believe that as nominated surveyors on works for these authorities

we should claim the right to act in accordance with our experience and our consciences, and we must not be willing to accept too much dictation from the officers in the public service, for fear we lose one of our most valuable assets—our independence. To say that an architect in the local government service has a functional position and not a professional one is not the answer. Our status is similar to that of the architect in the Government and the Colonial Government Services, and surely this status can be maintained without detriment to the interests of the architects. Let us have equality of status between architect and surveyor in all branches of the public service. We have become so accus tomed to direction from above—to which we submit too meekly—that we are in danger of allowing our professional judg-ment to be submerged by the dictates of treasurers, auditors and others who, whilst they may be steeped in financial wisdom, are not always expert interpreters of building contracts. Their opinions are unanimous, and sometimes seldom are not helped by the terms of the contract form adopted by their authority.

There is also a movement afoot to establish the specification as a contract document This raises an old bone of contention and again concerns our respec tive functions, for who should write the specification? We are all aware that in most cases it was written by the quantity surveyor and that, more often than not, it was a re-hash of the descriptions in the bills with locations added. But is such a document really wanted in these days of British Standards of quality and application of materials, for the bulk of description is now rightly taken care of in bills. The prime reason for the bill of quantities is still what it has always been, i.e., to enable the contractor's estimator to arrive at his tender-offer with accuracy and speed and to do this he wants the information ready to hand and preferably in one document. Therefore I think that all we need in the early stages of a project is a skeleton description of the materials and the vitally necessary schedules of such things as finishings, doors and windows. While the work is in progress, these schedules are all that is required in addition to the bills, plus any other clauses having particular reference to order and location. And who is better able to prepare these than the surveyor who took the quantities? We should cease telling the contractor how to mix concrete or the best method of laving one brick upon another. He has this knowledge already; if not then his name should not be on the list of invitations to tender. I do not like the practice of provid-ing general specification in addition to the bills as well as a particular specification peculiar to the job.

I think that we must take second place to the architect in our relationships with clients and in most instances our contacts with the employer must be through or with him. If we compare the efficiency of our own contracting system with that of other countries we may verify that the clients themselves are still largely responsible for the delays and high expenditure so often incurred. Our initial task lies in making it clear to the client that having stated his wishes and requirements and appointed his professional advisers, he should leave them without interference to carry on with their already difficult task. In some new counarchitects and surveyors are together guiding the employer and when he gets out of step they bring the matter to his notice. It is a universally accepted maxim that the customer is always right, but we can, with advantage, point out that building is not a

nued on page 408)



ducted air

coal, or as a fully automatic gas unit. Architects, housing authorities and others—especially those interested in smoke abatement—should write for literature explaining the system in full, or visit the experimental houses at

Stanmore where both solid fuel and gas installations may be seen in action. But please apply first for an appointment to Radiation Group Sales Limited, Lancelot Works, Wembley, Middlesex. Telephone: Wembley 6221.



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THE CARPENTER

As the carpenter works, the sweet smell of wood shavings fills the air. Smoothing the rippled grain of fresh - planed wood, he caresses Beauty herself. The burring saw, the hissing plane, the tapping hammer are music to his ears . . .

AND CRAFTSMANSHIP LIVES ON With the coming of the Industrial Revolution and the development of machinery, the era of the lone craftsman passed into history. No longer was one man single master of his trade. Instead, the work was divided among specialists, each one a craftsman in his own particular line.- To-day, the individual is an expert, whose specialised skill is an essential part of the whole.

T CELLON we believe in the essence of craftsmanship. For example, after a new decorative finish has been produced by our laboratory specialists, it is tested by experts who examine every Cellon product under the conditions of use for which it is intended. Like the carpenter of old, who by the skill of his craft released the pent-up genius of wood, we always strive for perfection in our finished work.

The existing range of Cerrux Decorative Paints includes Gloss, Satin and Matt Finishes, Flat undercoatings, Primers for all types of surface and, also, Cerrusco Texture and Water Paints. The skill and forethought embraced in our work together with constant research have established perfect uniformity among our standard finishes. The result is that you can always be sure of consistency of quality when re-ordering a particular finish.

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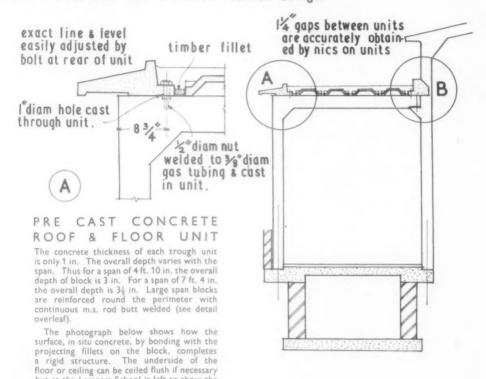


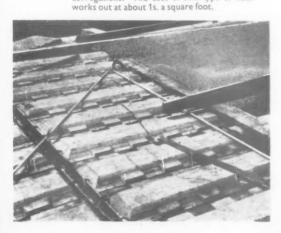
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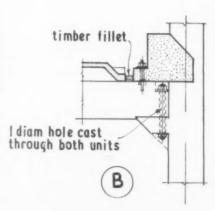
CONSTRUCTION DETAIL

The floor unit illustrated below was used at the Lessness Primary School, illustrated in The Architect & Building News of March 16. This unit has been designed by Felix J. Samuely, B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E., M.I.Struct.E., to provide a relatively light floor or roof combined with strength and considerable saving in cost. This type of floor has also been used at Hatfield Technical College.

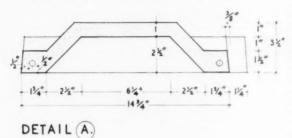


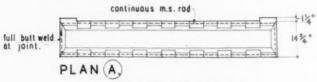


but at the Lessness School is left to show the corrugations. The cost of this type of floor



CONSTRUCTION DETAIL





PRE CONCRETE ROOF AND FLOOR UNIT

Details of a 7 ft. 4 in. unit. The shorter units of 4 ft. 10 in. span are not reinforced and the width of cross section is 20 in. Design of the units varies to suit conditions on different jobs.

Quantity Surveyor, Architect, Contractor and Client

continued from page 406)

plastic material to be squeezed and kneaded into shape at will. Change of intention by the client is perhaps the worst element with which we have to contend in endeavouring to keep down costs, and from my experience. I find that Americans have to face the same problem. We know that the presentation of accounts and statements is quite an art and requires considerable skill and experience. We all wish to present the bill to the client in the most lucid and acceptable form and in so doing we have to keep ever in mind the keen interest the contractor is also going to take in all the material facts and figures.

When a quantity surveyor is being com-missioned for the first time by a client, the architect can render a considerable service by giving a clear, if concise, idea of the scope of the surveyor's functions and how they tie in with his own. It may frequently happen that the surveyor has no early opportunity to do this himself, and much subsequent embarrassment can be obviated if the client knows in advance the services covered by the various professional charges. This is even more important where com-mittees or corporate bodies are involved Greater difficulty arises over the settlement of accounts, and the uninformed client can be left with the impression that he is being charged twice for the same service. This is particularly unfortunate when we consider that the control of the volume of variations is not in the hands of the surveyor. Although our professional charges are our own concern and can safely be left to our own care, I think that, together with the architect we should try to give the client a forecast of his overall commitments. But I do not like the composite scale of fees covering the preparation of bills of quantities, certificates and settlement of accounts

In our relationships with the contractors.

I see no good reason why a continuous I see no good reason why a continuous state of guerilla warfare should exist. Mr. Robert Lloyd, the leader of the Anglo-American Productivity Feam, issued an appeal to architects and clients "to learn to trust your contractor." We can all support that plea and we should take the line that all contractors are to be trusted until their actions prove the contrary. I consider our duty to be as much to the contractor as to any other party to the contract, and I dislike intensely the attitude of mind which infers that the quantity surveyor should take advantage of any opportunity to withhold beneficial information from the con-tractor. I would equally ask all contractors to restrain their flights of fancy and give us the facts when we ask for them in order that they may assist us to maintain our position as arbiter. Although we are trained to be coldly calculating and precise, I hope we have a spark of sympathy for the unfortunates who make losses upon unfortunates who make losses upon contracts. It is still a never-changing source of wonder to me that, surrounded as we always are—or rather appear to be— with dozens of contractors all losing money our contracting system is still reasonably successful. Seriously, however, we must always remember that quantity surveyors owe their continued existence to a successful contracting system

It was not my deliberate intention to keep the contractor until last. It was merely that the contractor's interests are so bound up with a discussion of our position with the architects and employers, that the solutions of our problems may provide the answers to many of his.

I am greatly impressed by the arguments advanced in favour of shortening quantities or the Standard Method of Measurement by a process of "boiling down." The good Bill of Quantities is the one which contains all the items necessary to frame a good

estimate. Alterations leading to economy in words must be welcomed by us all, but any tendency to cut out necessary information is to be deprecated. Again it is for the contractors to say whether we are giving them the assistance they require, and if not, they must inform us of the direction in which we should move. It has been suggested that, if we all decide to "condense" our Bills of Quantities we shall afford greater scope to the less scrupulous contractor for the exercise of his ingenuity in finding loopholes in the bills and pegs on which to hang claims. I think that there is some danger here, and therefore we must nove cautiously in any attempt to "concentrate" the items or descriptions in quantities.

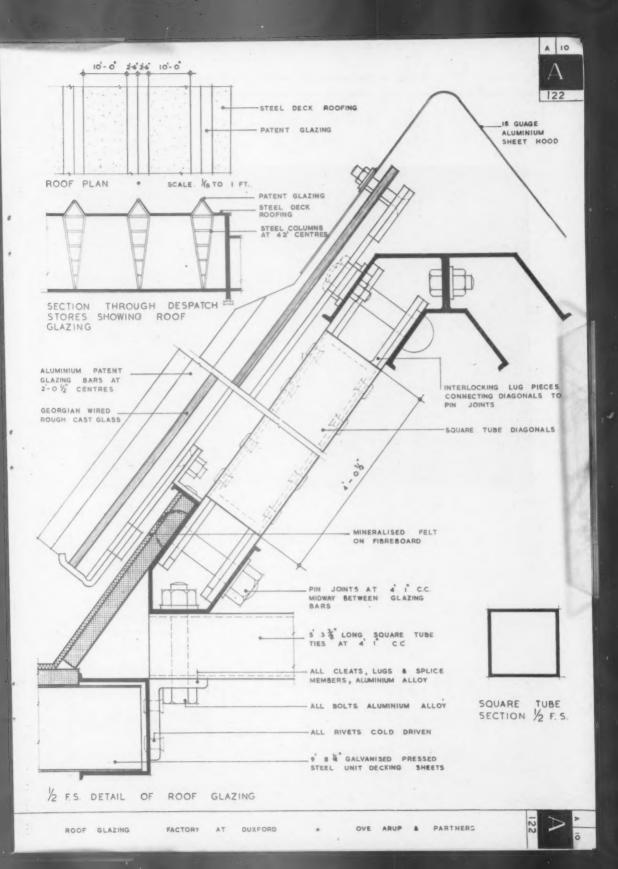
The selection of firms of contractors to be invited to tender for a project is a subject in which we naturally take a keen interest. We are frequently asked by architect or client to express an opinion on a proposed selection, to be given in the light of our knowledge and experience. I know that one or two of our senior members are not very ready to take any responsibility for the selection of the lists of contractors, but I see no serious objection to our passing comment (if invited) freely and without bias. Do we not all know of occasions when it is proposed to invite a firm of firms who would be so obviously out off their element for the particular type of work? We have also seen the disastrous results which can arise from the indiscriminate invitation of firms, amongst whom there may be some with few pretentions to suitability for the tasks involved, including too frequently the firm whose tender is lowest.

The system of "open tendering" which is

The system of "open tendering" which is obligatory on many authorities may be criticised although it receives a certain measure of support. A rota system seems to have its merits, but I am aware that any proposals to form classifications or grades of contractors have met with stiff opposition mainly from the industry itself. But this remains a problem of vital concern to client, architect and quantity surveyor which still demands a solution.

It is probably true to say that to-day the majority of building contractors have confidence in the impartiality and correct conduct of the qualified surveyor, and in many cases they are very willing to leave the settlement of their affairs in our hands. This makes me wonder what is the primary purpose of the extensive surveying department set up by some firms. We know they deal with payments on account, subtraders' work, and bonusing, but can it othat sometimes these large and highly geared machines are concerned mainly with potential claims on the contract?

I have recently visited Central and East Africa where registration is in operation on a firm basis. I was privileged to attend meetings of a Registration Board, and also those of a composite Society of Architects and Quantity Surveyors. I found both of absorbing interest and I think that we would benefit greatly from a closer liaison of the same kind. I am not advocating the formation of further societies for we have enough bodies already. But I recommend closer links with architects and contractors, so that we may exchange views, discuss mutual problems on a personal basis, thrash out our difficulties, and even make constructive criticism of the work of the respective practitioners. More good work could be done by the Junior Organization discussion groups, if further invitations were issued to some of the younger architects and builders. I am aware we have Joint Committees, Liaison Committees and the like, but these are mainly concerned with policy matters. We need something a little less formal if we are to exchange ideas freely.





ROOF GLAZING, FACTORY AT DUXFORD ARCHITECTS: OVE ARUP & PARTNERS

Notes below give basic data of contracts open under locality and authority which are in bold type. References indicate: (a) type of work, (b) address for application. Where no town is stated in the

CONTRACT · NEWS ·

OPEN

BUILDING

ALSAGER U.C. (a) 70 houses and site works, Close Lane. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Council Offices, 3 Lawton Road. (c) 2 Gns.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH R.C. (a) Brick garage at the Sewage Disposal Works, Measham. (b) Council's Surveyor, South Street. (a) Apr. 16.

AXMINSTER U.C. (a) Block of 4 flats, Fox Hill Estate. (b) Messrs. Powell & Powell, Grosvenor Chambers, 32 The Terrace, Torquay. (c) 3 Gns. (e) Apr. 21.

BIRKENHEAD. (a) 130 houses, Woodchurch Estate. (b) H. J. Rowse, Martins Bank Building, Water Street, Liverpool. (c) 5 Gns. (e) Apr. 30.

BERKSHIRE C.C. (a) Primary School at Blenheim Road, Maidenhead. (b) County Architect, Wilton House, Parkside Road, Reading. (c) 5 Gns. (d) Apr. 14. (e) May 3.

CLACTON U.C. (a) 12 flats in 3 blocks at Melbourne Road, 8 flats in 2 blocks and a pair of houses at Beaumont Avenue, pair of houses at Carrs Road. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Town Hall. (c) 2 Gns. (e) Apr. 16.

CLEETHORPES B.C. (a) 5 pairs of houses and 6 pairs of houses, on Davenport Drive, site. (b) Borough Engineer, Council House. (c) 2 Gns. (e) Apr. 19.

ESSEX C.C. (a) Area offices at Park Road, Colchester. (b) County Architect, County Hall, Chelmsford. (d) Apr. 14. Approx. cost £14,200.

FAREHAM U.C. (a) Pair of houses at the old Isolation Hospital. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Westbury Manor. (c) 2 Gns. (e)

HAMPSHIRE C.C. (a) Additions to County Farm Institute, Sparsholt, to include erection of 2 pairs of houses. (b) Messrs. Harris & Porter, 103 Palmerston Road, Southsea. (c) 1 Gn. payable to Council, forwarded to J. B. F. Cowper, 19 Gordon Square, W.C.1.

HEREFORDSHIRE C.C. (a) Structural alterations, additions and decorations at Old People's Home, Belle Orchard House, Ledbury. (b) County Welfare Officer, 10 St. Owen Street, Hereford. (c) 2 Gns. (d) Apr. 9.

HOLYWELL U.C. (n) 23 houses, Greenfield site. (b) F. C. Roberts, Earl Chambers, Mold. (c) 3 Gns (e) Apr. 23.

KEYNSHAM U.C. (a) 37 houses, Norman Estate, Saltford, Bristol. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Council Offices. (c) 2 Gns. (e)

LANCASTER C.C. .(a) 4 flats in 3 blocks, Hala Estate. (b) City Engineer, Town Hall. (c) 2 Gns. (e) Apr. 25.

LONDON-CHINGFORD B.C. (a) 8 shops with two-storey maisonettes above at Old Church Road. (b) Borough Engineer, Town Hall, E.4. (c) 2 Gns. (e) Apr. 23. address it is the same as the locality given in the heading, (c) deposit, (d) last date for application, (e) last date and time for submission of tenders. Full details of contracts marked * are given in the advertisement section.

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MORLEY B.C. (a) 12 houses, 16 houses, 30 houses, 38 houses, at Asquith Avenue Estate. (b) Housing Director, National Provincial Bank Chambers, Queen Street. (c) 2 Gns. (e) Apr. 16. All or separate trades.

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME B.C. (a) 100 houses, in groups of 28, 34, 62 or 100 houses, Windermere Road Estate. (b) Town Clerk, District Bank Chambers, Penkhull Street. (c) £2. (d) Apr. 13.

NEWHAVEN U.C. (a) 20 dwellings and 4 shops with 3 flats above, Meeching Estate. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Council Offices. (c) 2 Gns. (e) Apr. 16.

NORTH KESTEVEN R.C. (a) 18 houses and 2 bungalows, Skellingthorpe; 18 houses, Wellingore; 4 houses, Bassingham. (b) J. Chadwick, 31 Clasketgate, Lincoln. (c) 2 Gns. (e) Apr. 19.

PORTSMOUTH C.C. (a) 8 shops and 9 maisonettes, Paulsgrove Shopping Centre. (b) Messrs. Thomas, Jolly & Grant, Coronation House, King's Terrace. (c) 3 Gns. (d) Apr. 10.

REDCAR B.C. (a) 2 blocks of 4 shops and maisonettes, Dales Estate. (b) Borough Engineer, Municipal Buildings. (c) 5 Gns. (e) Apr. 17.

RUISLIP-NORTHWOOD: U.C. (a) 60 houses, Castleton Road, Eastcote. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Council Offices, Oaklands Gate, Northwood. (c) 2 Gns. (e) Apr. 23.

ST. FAITH'S AND AYLSHAM R.C. (a) 14 houses, Aylsham; 4 at Salhouse; 6 bungalows, Salhouse; 10 houses, Sprowston. (b) F. M. Dewing, 40 Prince of Wales Road, Norwich. (c) 1 Gn. each site. (e) Apr. 17.

ST. HELENS B.C. (a) Alterations and additions to Children's Reception Home at Park Farm, Carr Mill. (b) Borough Engineer, Town Hall. (c) 2 Gns. (e) Apr. 24.

SALOP C.C. (a) New child welfare centre at Newport. (b) County Architect Column House, London Road, Shrewsbury. (c) 2 Gns. (e) Apr. 16.

SCOTLAND—EDINBURGH C.C. (a) Lavatory accommodation at Pennywell School. (b) City Architect, City Chambers. (e) Apr. 14.

SHEPTON MALLET U.C. (a) 16 houses at Ridgeway. (b) Council's Clerk, Council Offices, Market Place. (c) 2 Gns. (e) Apr. 20.

.

STEVENAGE DEVELOPMENT CORPORA. TION. (a) 2 pairs of houses at Julians Road and Grove Road. (b) Chief Architect Aston House, Aston. (c) 2 Gns. (e) Apr. 30.

STOKESLEY R.C. (a) 2 houses at Carlton, 6 at Great Ayton, 4 at Hutton Rudby, 8 at Ormesby, 4 at Stainton 12 at Stokeley, 2 at Swainby and 8 at Yarm. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Council Offices. (c) 2 Gns. (e) Apr. 16.

SUNDERLAND B.C. (a) Supply and erection of structural steelwork for primary, junior and infants' schools at East Pennywell. (b) Messrs. W. & T. R. Milburn, 17 Fawcett Street. (c) 2 Gns. (e) Apr. 13.

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SUTTON AND CHEAM B.C. (a) 21 dwellings for aged persons at Burnell Road Brunswick Road, Sutton. (b) Borough Engineer, Municipal Offices, High Street. Sutton. (c) 5 Gns. (d) Apr. 11. (e) May 18.

WEST SUSSEX C.C. (a) Secondary school at Horsham. (b) County Architect, County Hall, Chichester. (d) May 2.

WEST SUSSEX C.C. (a) Alterations and additions to property to provide reception home for children at "Abbotswood," Rustington. (b) County Architect, County Hall, Chichester. (d) Apr. 13.

WINDSOR R.C. (a) 6 pairs of dwellings, block of 6 bungalows, block of 4 dwellings, at Bedford Lane, Sunningdale. (b) Louis H. Gray, Four Winds, Sunningdale. (c) 2 Gns. (e) Apr. 16.

WORCESTERSHIRE C.C. (a) Erection of first portion of a new college of further education at Oldbury. (b) Messrs. E. C. Harris & Partners, 3 Bedford Square, W.C.1, immediately. (c) 2 Gns. payable to Messrs. Harris. Approx. cost £120,000.

PLACED

Notes on contracts placed state locality and authority in bold type with (1) type of work, (2) site, (3) name of contractor and address, (4) amount of tender or estimate. † denotes that work may not start pending final acceptance, or obtaining of licence, or modification of tenders, etc.

BUILDING

ACTON B.C. (1) 54 flats. (2) Oldfield Estate. (3) C. F. Kearley Ltd., British Grove, W.4. (4) £87,956.

BRYNMAWR (BRECON) U.D.C. (1) Ten blocks of flats. (2) Clydach Street. (3) Gee, Walker & Slater Ltd., Park Lane, London, W.I. (4) £44,729,

BRISTOL CORPORATION. (1) Buildings and traffic police accommodation. (2) Rupert Street. (3) C. H. Pearce & Sons (Contractors) Ltd., Westbury-on-Trym. (4) £20,170.

BROMSGROVE U.D.C. (1) 40 houses. (2 Charford. (3) Mackee & Rodway Ltd., Northway. Bromsgrove. (4) £44,856.

BRISTOL CORPORATION. (1) Repairs. (2) Bourton Grange, Flax Bourton. (3) J. Moseley, I Belgrave Road., Weston-super-Marc. (4) £10,840.

CHELMSFORD CORPORATION. (1) 24 houses. (2) Chignall Estate. (3) Brown & Leggatt, 54 Havering Drive, Romford. (4) £33,222.

CARDIGAN C.C. (1) Biological laboratory. (2) Llandyssul Secondary School. (3) J. Davies, Station Road, Llandyssul.

CATERHAM. (1) Kitchen modernisation. (2) St. Lawrence's Hospital. (3) Grace & Marsh Ltd., New Building Works, Waddon, Croydon. (4) £16,256.

EASTBOURNE. (1) Rebuilding. (2) 3 Staveley Road. (3) G. Gower & Sons Ltd., 50 Tideswell Road, Eastbourne.

HORNSEY B.C. (1) 48 flats. (2) Brooke Road, Campsbourne. (3) F. W. Padwick, 141 Ballards Lane, N.3. (4) £76,025.

HALIFAX CORPORATION. (1) First two phases of extensions. (2) Technical College. (3) L. & W. Morrell Ltd., Low Moor, near Bradford. (4) £354,000.



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LONDON, E. (1) Rebuilding wharf and other buildings. (2) Plaistow Wharf, Victoria Docks. (3) John Mowlem & Co. Ltd., Ebury Bridge Road, S.W.1. Consulting engineers: L.G. Mouchel & Partners, 38 Victoria Street,

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LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL. (1) Extension of contract to include Block 5 of flats. (2) Tabard Gardens Estate. (3) Speirs Ltd., 66 Victoria Street, S.W.1. (4) £76,120.

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MANCHESTER REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD, (1) New wing. (2) Lancaster Moor Hospital. (3) A. Robinson & Sons (Morecambe) Ltd., West End Road, Morecambe. (4) £12,450. (1) Modernisation of male nurses' home. (2) Prestwich Hospital. (3) G. & W. Dawson & Co., Lower Crumsall, Manchester.

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PADDINGTON B.C. (1) Block of 12 flats. (2) Queen's Park Court Estate. (3) Holloway Bros. (London) Ltd., Westminster, S.W.1. (4) £21.689.

ST. PANCRAS B.C. (1) 44 flats. (2) Wilmington Terrace. (3) Gee, Walker & Slater Ltd., Park Lane, London, W.I. (4) £116,639. (1) Block of flats. (2) St. Pancras Way. (3) Harry Neal Ltd., Baker Street, W.I. (4) £81.081

STOKE-ON-TRENT E.C. (1) Additions, etc. (2) Longton School of Art (Sutherland) Institute and Longton Technical School. (3) The Northmere Building Co. Ltd., 21 Hope Street, Hanley, Staffs. (4) £14,091 and £8,402.

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SOUTHALL B.C. (1) 12 flats. (2) Green Oaks site. (3) A. Watson Ltd. (4) £17,932,

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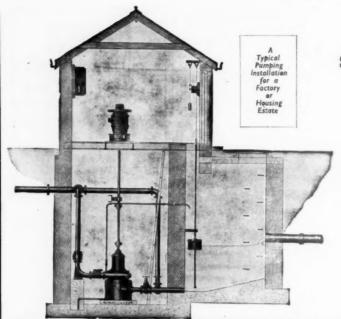
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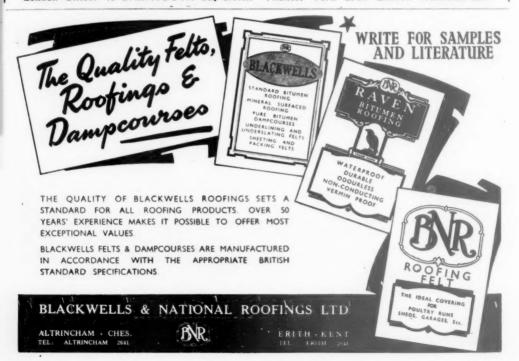
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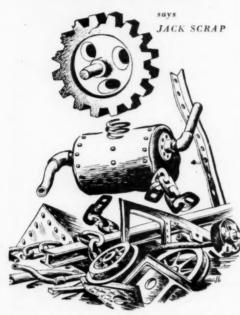
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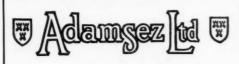
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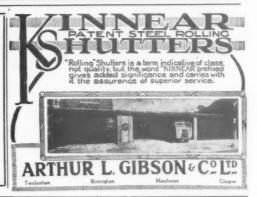
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APPOINTMENTS

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL.

A PPLICATIONS are invited for positions of ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT (salaries up to £580 a year) in the Housing and Valuation Department. Commencing salaries will be determined according to qualifications and experience Engagement will be subject to the Local Government Superamation Accessed and though the Control of the Control of the Control of the Permanent staff on the occurrence of vacancies.

ment to the permanent staff on the occurrence of vacancies. Successful candidates will be required to assist in the design, layout and oreparation of working drawings for housing schemes (cottages and multi-votery flats) and will be employed in the Housing Architect's Division

Forms of application may be obtained from the Director of Housing, The County Hall, West-minster Bridge, S.E.! (stamped addressed envelope required and quote reference A.A.!). Canvassing disqualities. (816).

A IR MINISTRY have vacancies for DESIGNER AIR MINISTRY have vacancies for DESIGNER. DRAUGHTSMEN in the Designs Branch of the Works Department in the following fields: Architecture. Drainage and Water Supply, Land Survey. Vacancies are mainly in London but there are some in the provinces. If desired, consideration would be given to making appointments for London only. Salries are on ranges up to £635 with starting pay in accordance with age and qualifications. —Applications, stating age, qualifications, previous appointments (with dates), should be sent SE.1. from which address further details may also be obtained.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF CROYDON.

SCHOOL ARCHITECT'S SECTION

ASSISTANT ARCHITECT.

A PPLICATIONS are invited from suitably quali-

APPLICATIONS are invited from suitably qualified persons for this appointment.

Salary Grade A.P.T. V (a)—£550 x £20 - £610 per annum plus London Weighting of £30 per annum at age 25 and over.

Living accommodation is not offered.

Application forms, available from the Chief Education Officer. Education Officer. Education Officer. Education officer because the suitable properties of stamped addressed enveloper. must be returned to him within 14 days of the appearance of this advertisement.

ppearance of this acceptance of the disquality.

Canvassing will disquality.

E. TABERNER, Town Clerk.

[5332]

CITY OF NOTTINGHAM.

CITY ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT. THE GUILDHALL

CLERK OF WORKS. Salary £435 x £15 - £465 Grade Misc. V.

A PPLICATIONS are invited for the above pernanent position in the City Engineer's Depart-

Ammanent position in the City Ensineer's Department.

Applicants should be experienced in building maintenance work and be capable of estimating. The person appointed will be required to pass a medical examination and to contribute to the Corporation's Superannuation Fund.

Applications are to be made on forms to be obtained from the City Engineer and Surveyor (R. M. Finch, Esq., O.B. M.I.C.E.) be returned to the City Engineer and Surveyor (R. M. Finch, Esq., O.B. M.I.C.E.) be returned by not later that T. T., OWEN, Town Clerk, The Guildhall, Nottingham.

[5336]

SUDAN GOVERNMENT.

THE Public Works Department requires an ARCHITECT aged 28 to 36, for service in

ARCHITECT aged 28 to 36, for service in the Sudan. Sound experience is required in working up detailed designs from sketches and in the preparation of working drawings for buildings of a public and domestic character. Candidates should be Associates of the R.I.B.A. or hold other recognised professional qualifications in architecture. Approximate will be on probation for a Short Architecture of the Control of

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT.

APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL PLANNING OFFICER.

PLANNING OFFICER.

A PPLICATIONS are invited for the appointment of ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL PLANNING OFFICER in the Central Herts Divisional Planning Office at St. Albams. The salary of the appointment is 6685 per annum, rising to £760 (Grade VIII. A.P.T.). Applicants will be required to deputise for the Divisional Planning Officer in his absence, and should have considerable experience in drafting planning proposals and in dealing with development applications. Preference will be given to candidates with experience of controlling elevations of buildings. Applicants must be Corporate Members of the Town Planning Institute, and hold other professional qualifications. The successful candidate will be required to provide a car for which travelling allowance will be paid in accordance with the Council's scale.

Forms of application are obtainable from the County Planning Officer. County Hall, Herford, These are returnable not later than 21st Anvil. 1951.

ABERDEEN HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS.

HARBOUR ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT

A PPLICATIONS are invited for the post of ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT in the Har-bour Engineer's Office. Aberdeen. Applicants should be under 40 years of age.

Applicants should be never 40 years of age, with experience in structural steelwork, reinforced concrete and general building design and construction. Preference will be siven to candidates with some experience of property procedure and the preparation of renors. The salary, £395-£570 according to qualifications, riving by annual increments of £15. The annoniment is subject to the Commissioners' Superannuation Scheme and the candidate selected will require to pass a medical examination before appointment.

Ambications, stains are and qualifications, with Ambications, stains are and qualifications with professions and the stain of the control of

CITY OF MANCHESTER.

CITY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT

A PPLICATIONS are invited for the appointment on the permanent staff of a CLERK OF WORKS, salary A.P.T. III. £450 to £495 per

Conditions.

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FHILIP B. DINGLE, Town Clerk
Town Hall, Manchester, 2.
April, 1951.

[5339

BRACKNELL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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design and construction of large bousing layouts, and will work under the direction of Mr. E. A., Ferriby, B.Arch., A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I., Chief Architect to the Corporation,
The post will be superannuable under the Local Government Superannualion Act, 1937, and the successful candidate will be required to pass a medical examination.
Candidates are required to state if they are to their knowledge related to any member of the Corporation or Staff.
Applications, giving full particulars of the can-

Applications, giving full particulars of the can Applications, giving full particulars of the can-didate's age, qualifications and experience, together with the names of two persons to whom reference can be made, must reach the General Manager, Bracknell Development Corporation, Farley Hall, B nited, Bracknell, Berks, on or before 30th April, 1951, marking envelope "Architect." [5338

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